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To cure - To treat - To heal

To treat: means to help by giving physical things, pills, liquids, food, or by giving psychological help, listening, advising. It is a process of “helping”, it does not mean complete resolution of the problem.

To heal: means something was damaged and now it is returning to its former, correct, state. A broken bone, cut skin, a psychological problem that is resolving. It means complete resolution of the problem.

To cure: means a disease or illness or ailment that gets better. It means complete resolution of the problem.

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A broken collarbone

The collarbone is a long, thin bone between your breastbone (sternum) and your shoulder. It is also called the clavicle.

You have 2 collarbones, 1 on each side of your breastbone. They help to keep your shoulders in line.

A broken or fractured collarbone often occurs from falling and landing on your shoulder or from stopping a fall with your outstretched arm. It can also occur from a car, motorcycle, or bicycle accident.

The type of break you have will determine your **treatment**. If the bones are aligned (meaning that the broken ends meet), the treatment is to wear a sling and relieve your symptoms.

How long your collarbone will take to **heal** depends on where the break in the bone is (in the middle or at the end of the bone).

In more severe fractures, when the broken ends of the bones are separated by more than 1.5 cm, or the bone pieces are angulated, or when the clavicle is broken into several parts, it is often best to repair the fracture surgically.

Infection is not common. However, should it be necessary, this can be **cured** by antibiotic therapy.

Vocabulary

Curable

Cure-all

Treatably

Incurable

Treatment

Untreatable

Curative

Treatable

Healable