

## VAQ 2010.2.4 (XR)

A 35 year old man presents to the emergency department after an injury to the left ankle sustained in a motorcycle accident.



Describe and interpret his X-rays (100%)

These xrays show a trans-talar fracture/dislocation of the ankle with anterior translation of the distal talus and subtalar structures. This is a severe foot injury requiring prompt reduction under appropriate analgesia/sedation and carries a high risk of avascular necrosis of the proximal talar fragment. It will require inpatient orthopaedic treatment for elevation and likely fixation.

### XR left ankle

- comminuted, widely displaced fracture through neck of talus
- 1-2cm anterior displacement of distal fragment
- transtalar anterior dislocation of the foot at the talocalcaneal/subtalar joint
- significant soft tissue swelling evident
- severe injury

### Risks

- AVN talar dome
- vascular injury particularly posterior tibial
- neurological injury particularly sural nerve
- compartment syndrome of foot

### ED concerns

- analgesia
- neurovascular assessment
- prompt reduction – potential neurovascular and skin compromise
- elevation
- inpatient orthopaedic treatment
- CT may help operative planning