Mason Classification

Radial head fractures · types I to IV (type IV added by Johnston)

I — Nondisplaced

less than 2 mm · brief immobilization, early motion

II — Displaced partial

more than 2 mm · fix if it blocks rotation

III — Comminuted

whole head · fix if possible, otherwise arthroplasty

IV — With elbow dislocation

reduce and look for coronoid and ligament injuries

On the X-ray
Visible posterior fat pad

Key in type II
Block to forearm rotation?

Essex-Lopresti
Check the distal radioulnar joint

The most common elbow fracture in adults: a fall on an outstretched hand