

The image shows two teal-colored metal rods for a knee spanning external fixation system. Each rod is connected to a black plastic frame with red adjustment knobs. The rods are positioned diagonally across the frame. The text 'FastFrame™ External Fixation System' is overlaid on a blue background on the left. A light blue banner across the middle contains the text 'Knee Spanning Surgical Technique'. The rod on the right has 'FastFrame KNEE SPANNING' printed on it, along with a logo and a circular seal that says 'STERILIZED IN MR 47-53920-000-000'.

FastFrame™ External Fixation System

Knee Spanning Surgical Technique

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Introduction

- 1 Clamp to Pin Lockout Wing Nut
- 2 Polyaxial Lockout Wing Nut
- 3 Polyaxial Lockout Bolt
- 4 Telescoping Lockout Clamp
- 5 Lockout Tab
- 6 Telescoping Lockout Bolt
- 7 Clamp Slider
- 8 Backup Telescoping Lockout Bolt

The FastFrame External Fixation System – Knee Spanning is a single-use external fixator consisting of the following components that are manipulated by the end user: clamps, telescoping rods, and half-pin bone screws (Figure 1). This system will be sterile packed in its fully assembled state and will not require any intraoperative assembly by the clinicians.

The main clamp bodies will be interconnected to each other with adjustable (telescoping) tubes that allows the clamps to rotate, pivot, and translate with respect to the long axis of the bone. This will allow the surgeon to properly reduce the fracture and subsequently rigidly fix the bones in place.

Adjustment of the fixator is possible during the course of treatment. The total range of accommodated pin placement from 265 mm (minimum extension) to 625 mm (maximum extension) (Figure 2). Further, the polyaxial elements of the frame allow the main clamps of the frame to change the angulation of the clamps relative to each other.

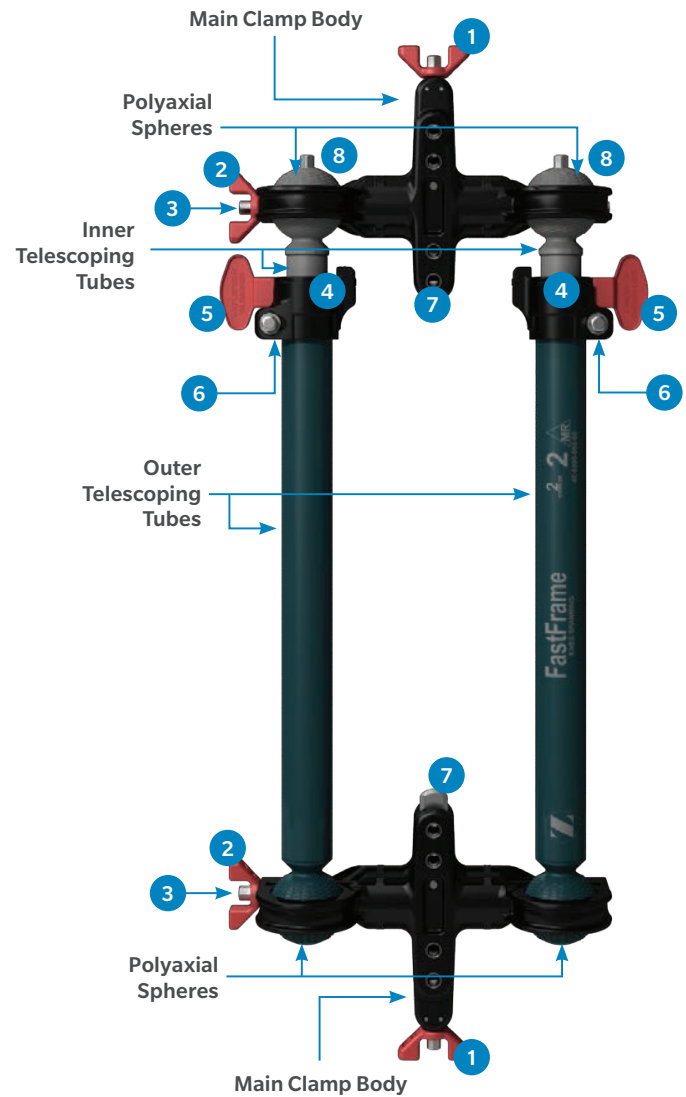
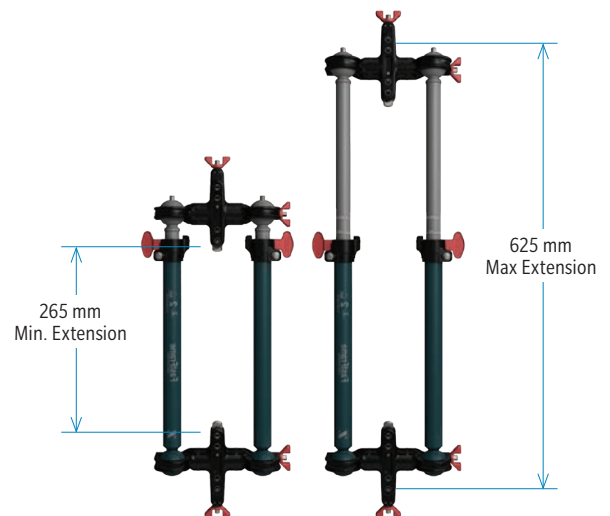


Figure 1



Available Pin Placement Range of the Frame

Figure 2

INDICATIONS

The FastFrame External Fixation System – Knee Spanning is indicated for use in treatment of long bone (distal femur, proximal tibia) fractures. Specifically, the system is intended for:

- Stabilization of open or closed fractures about the knee, typically in the context of polytrauma or where open or alternative closed treatment is undesirable or otherwise contraindicated;
- Arthrodesis and osteotomies with associated soft tissue problems about the knee;
- Stabilization of limbs after removal of total knee arthroplasty for infection or other failure;
- Stabilization of non-unions about the knee
- Intraoperative temporary stabilization to assist with indirect reduction.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Active or suspected infection
- Conditions that limit the patient's ability and/or willingness to follow instructions during the healing process.
- Inadequate skin, bone, or neurovascular status

Contraindications may be relative or absolute and are left to the discretion of the surgeon.

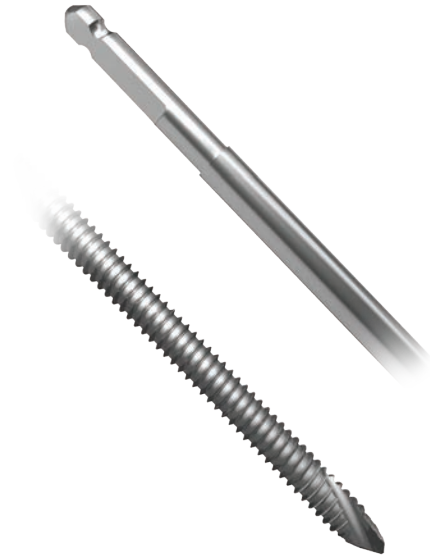


Figure 3

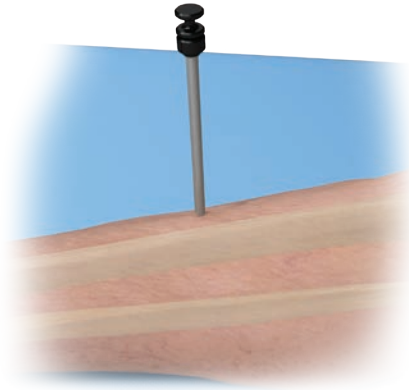


Figure 4



Figure 5

First And Second Pin Placement

The FastFrame External Fixation System – Knee Spanning comes equipped with four (4) self-drilling, self-tapping 5 mm x 200 mm x 65 mm thread pins. Each pin has an AO quick connect feature that connects to most power equipment (Figure 3).

Trocar and tissue sleeves can be used through the frame or independently (Figure 4).

To place the first pin, insert the tissue sleeve and trocar through the desired pin hole on either proximal or distal clamps (Figure 5).

ⓘ **Note:** It is important to assess the distance between the fracture site and your pin placements to optimize frame expansion and minimize risk of infection.

Using the trocar, make a mark on the skin for the incision. After the mark has been made, make the incision, and gain access to the bone using the tissue sleeve and trocar to transect the soft tissues.



Figure 6

Remove the trocar from the tissue sleeve and insert the first pin through the tissue sleeve. Drill the pin into the bone deep enough to provide cortical fixation (Figure 6). Repeat for the second pin which should be placed in the opposing clamp, or bone if drilling independently of the clamp. Drilling beyond the far cortex is not recommended, as this will place soft tissues at risk.

Warning: Uni-cortical fixation does not provide adequate fixation.



Figure 7

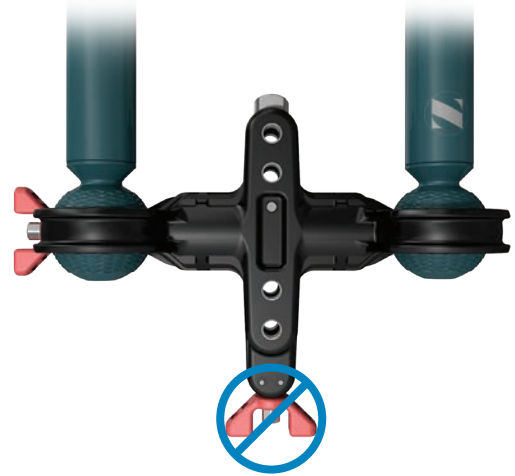


Figure 8

First And Second Pin Placement (cont.)

The FastFrame External Fixation System – Knee Spanning Frame accommodates pin placements from 265 mm to 625 mm. Ensure that the first and second pins allow for subsequent frame expansion and reduction. It is important to note there are four options for pin placement in both proximal and distal clamps (Figure 7).

- ⓘ **Note:** Do not tighten the clamp slider bolt until all four pins have been drilled and the frame has been applied (Figure 8).



Figure 9

First And Second Pin Placement (cont.)

The FastFrame External Fixation System comes packaged with the telescoping bars positioned slightly anterior to the clamp when viewing from a lateral position. The position in which the frame is packed is considered its standard orientation. The frame is designed in order to achieve greater spacing between the frame and the patient's anatomy (Figure 9). The FastFrame frame can also be applied in a "reverse" position by inverting the frame over and placing the bars closer to the patient's anatomy. After inverting the frame, the outer telescoping tubes can be rotated in order to make the telescoping locking bolts more accessible for tightening.

Post Second Pin Placement

When placing the frame over the first and second pins, choose pin holes on clamps such that there is adequate bone for placement of subsequent pins. Third and fourth pin placement should be chosen irrespective of fracture type. Place frame over both pins if drilling occurred independent of the frame. Pins can be placed through any of the 4 clamp holes of each clamp. The pin holes on each clamp allow for a paradigm of pin placements, thus it is important to gauge the distance between the final pin placement and the fracture. Determine if frame is in accurate location and verify pin spacing with respect to minimum and maximum lengths.

Note: Do not lock frame onto pins at this stage.



Figure 10

Post Second Pin Placement (cont.)

Once the appropriate pin holes are chosen and frame is positioned on both the first and second pins, the tissue sleeves and trocar for the third and fourth pin holes (one in each clamp may be placed) (Figure 10). Using the trocar, mark on the skin may be placed for the incision. After the mark has been made, make the incision, and gain access to the bone using the tissue sleeve and trocar to transect the soft tissues.

Drill Third and Fourth Pins Through Frame

Remove the trocar from the tissue sleeve and insert the third pin through the tissue sleeve. Drill the pin into the bone with enough depth to provide bi-cortical fixation. Repeat for the final pin.

Drilling beyond the far cortex is not recommended, as this will place soft tissues at risk.

⚠ Warning: Uni-cortical fixation does not provide adequate fixation.



Figure 11

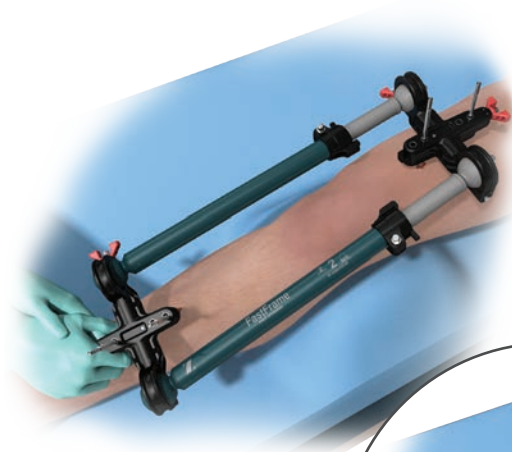


Figure 12



Figure 12a

Lock Clamps Over Pins

When all four pins are in place, provisionally tighten the clamp over the pins by hand using the wing nut on the clamp slider bolt (Figure 11).

Reduce and Pull Red Tabs

In its current state, the frame can freely expand and contract. Achieve the initial stabilization by holding the frame around the clamps and pulling until desired reduction is achieved (Figure 12). The clamps can be used to grip the frame while extending the frame to achieve the intended reduction. Removing the red lockout tabs enables the traction retention capability of the frame.

The frame will be locked into the selected length, and will not contract in size (uni-directional) once the red lockout tabs are removed (Figure 12a).

ⓘ **Note:** Red tabs can be re-inserted to regain free expansion and contraction of the frame.

Provisional Locking of Spheres

Polyaxial spheres can be easily locked and unlocked to achieve hands-off fluoroscopy and to fine tune fracture reduction.

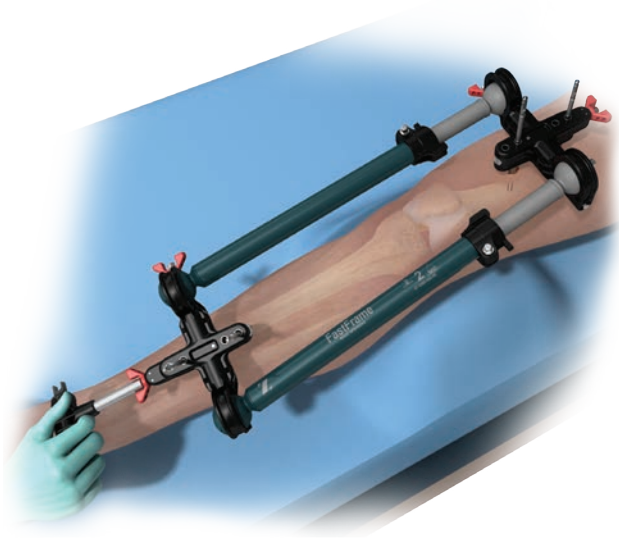


Figure 13

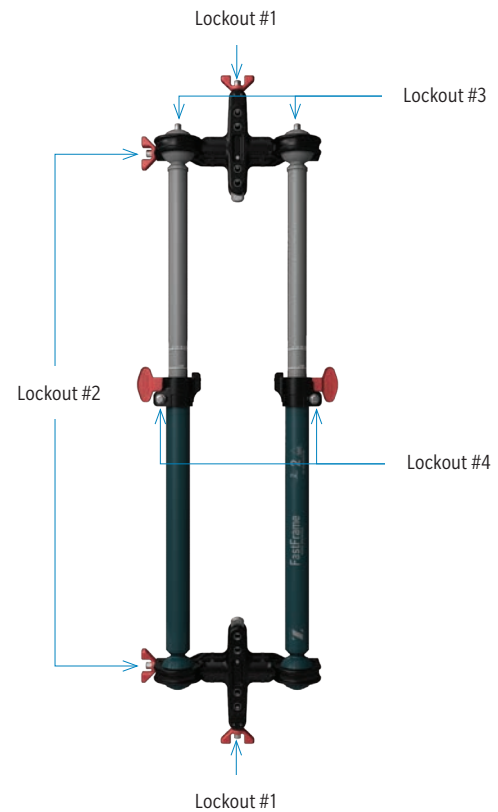


Figure 14

Final Frame Locking

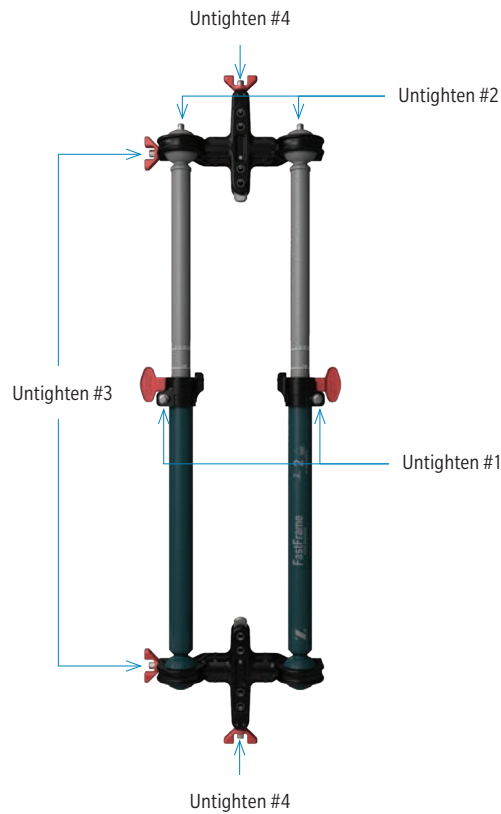
Utilize the T-handle driver to conduct final frame locking (Figure 13). Note the 1 – 4 number sequence on each nut and tighten the nuts in that order (Figure 14).

1. Tighten the clamp slider bolts on each clamp (indicated as Lockout #1 in Fig 14) in order to fix the clamps to the pins.
2. Tighten the polyaxial lockout bolts on each clamp (indicated as Lockout #2 in Fig 14) in order to fix the clamps to the bars.
3. Lock the two backup telescoping lockout bolts (indicated as Lockout #3 in Fig 14) to allow initial fastening of the telescoping bars.
4. Lock the two telescoping lockout bolts along the tube/bars near the red tabs (indicated as Lockout #4 in Fig 14) to allow complete fixation of the telescoping bars.

Postoperative Management

Pin Care

Using dry gauze dressings, wrap each pin site to ensure blood is absorbed and swelling is reduced. Once the site is dry, it is best left open. Pin tract care varies per doctor or nurse. It is important to keep the site clean through washings and respective maintenance. Pin tract infections are noticeable through pain, discharge of pus, or swelling. Please address immediately if these signs are noticeable.



Implant Removal

For the removal of the FastFrame External Fixation System – Knee Spanning loosen all bolts identified by numbers 1-4 manually, or by using the driver.

By untightening all of the bolts, the frame becomes dislodged from its final construct state. Its important to loosen the two clamp slider bolts last. This prevents the frame from sliding down towards the patient and allows for an easier removal of the system.

ⓘ **Note:** When loosening the number 3 bolt, ensure to loosen it fully as this unlocks the internal mechanism. (Minimum 3 full rotations)

Once the system is removed, you may dispose of it entirely.

Pin removal can be performed with a manual or power driver that is attached to the standard AO Quick Connect Feature or the shaft of the pin.

MRI Safety Information - MR Conditional

MR Conditional

Non-clinical testing has demonstrated the FastFrame External Fixation System – Knee Spanning is MR Conditional. A patient with this device can be safely scanned in an MR system under the following conditions:

- Static magnetic field of 1.5 or 3-Tesla
- Spatial gradient magnetic field of 2,000-gauss/cm (2.0-T/m) or less
- Maximum whole body averaged specific absorption rate (WB SAR) of 2.0-W/kg for 15 minutes of scanning.
- Normal Operating Mode of operation for the MR system
- Under the scan conditions defined above, the FastFrame External Fixation System – Knee Spanning is expected to produce a maximum temperature rise of less than 2°C after 15-minutes of continuous scanning with this device positioned completely outside of the scanner bore to ensure patient safety.

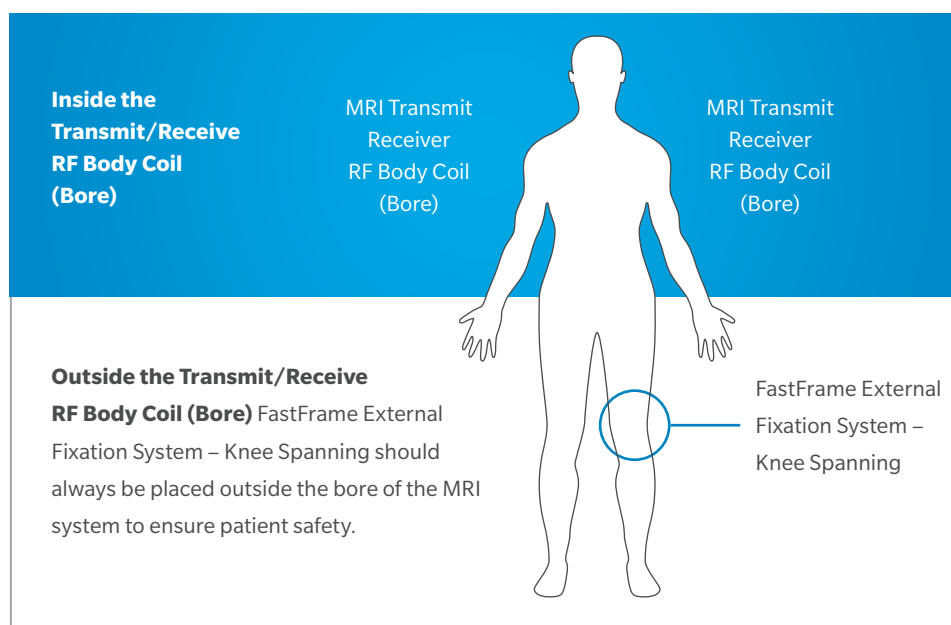
Important: The FastFrame External Fixation System – Knee Spanning must be entirely outside of the bore of the MR system (Refer to the figure below).

Warnings






- Using MRI in patients with the FastFrame External Fixation System – Knee Spanning components can only be performed under these specific conditions. Importantly, it is not allowed to scan a patient with the FastFrame External Fixation System – Knee Spanning components directly inside the Transmit/Receive RF Coil (Bore). Using other parameters may result in severe implant heating, and MRI could result in serious injury to the patient.
- Close patient monitoring and communication with the patient during the MRI examination is required. Immediately stop the MRI examination if the patient reports heating, pain, or any unusual sensation.
- Ensure that the patient's arms and legs do not touch each other or the scanner during the scan sequence
- Ensure that the fixator frame (aside from the pins) does not touch the patient's body during the scan sequence.

Artifact Information

The largest image artifact extends approximately 35-mm from the device when scanned using a gradient echo (GRE) pulse sequence in a 3-Tesla MR system.



FastFrame External Fixation System - Knee Spanning

Product	Description	Quantity per kit	Part Number
	FastFrame Knee Frame	1	47-5300-050-00
	Pin, Knee Spanning 5 mm x 200 mm x 65 mm	4	—
	T-Handle Driver 9/32 Hex	1	00-5300-050-01
	Tissue Sleeve Assembly	2	—
	Lockout Tab	2	—

The Driver, Tissue Sleeve and Lockout Tab are included in the Knee Spanning Kit, 47-5300-050-00.

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