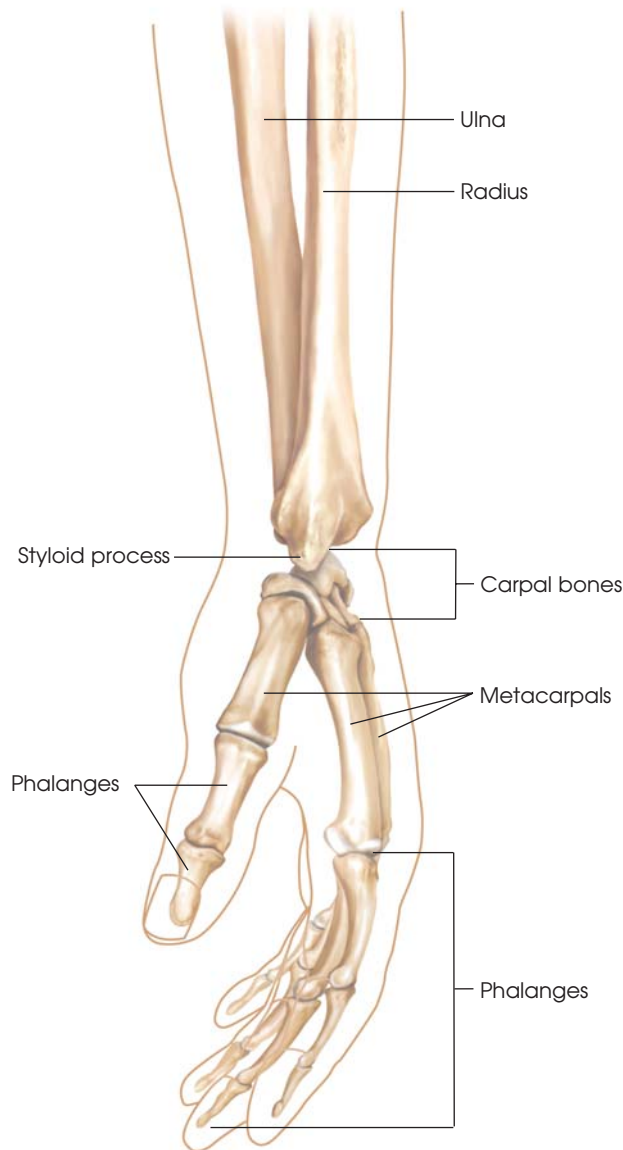
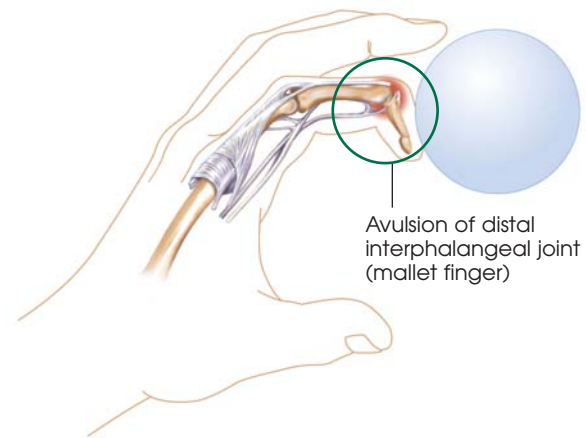


# Mallet Finger

Normal Finger and Thumb Anatomy:  
Lateral View



Mallet Finger



**Mallet Finger (also called "Baseball Finger")** is an injury to the fingertip that is caused by a blow that forces the tip of the finger to bend forward and damages the tendon that straightens the finger. This injury can occur when the finger is jammed as can happen when attempting to catch a ball. Symptoms include pain, swelling, bruising and the inability to straighten the finger. It is important to seek medical treatment immediately after the injury or the ability to straighten the finger may be lost.

## Common Treatment Options

- Apply ice packs to the finger for 20-30 minutes every 3-4 hours for the first 2-3 days until the pain goes away.
- Elevate the hand.
- Your doctor will straighten the finger and a splint will be applied to allow tendon reattachment and bone healing. The splint will need to be maintained for at least 6 weeks.

