

**ANOTHER UNUSUAL INDEX  
FINGERTIP AVULSION**

Dear Sir,

We really enjoyed the article by Drs Li et al (*Can J Plast Surg* 1994;2(1):39-40). Quite interestingly at that same time we were asked to see a patient with a similar condition in our emergency department.

The patient was a 37-year-old right hand dominant male who worked in a poultry slaughterhouse. He was cleaning the shackles while standing on a ladder. He lost his balance and fell off the ladder. However, his finger got caught in a shackle (Figure 1). He sustained an avulsion of the middle and distal phalanges. The avulsed fingertip had the entire flexor digitorum profundus tendon attached to it (Figure 2). Interestingly, the first dorsal interosseous was also attached to the avulsed part. The patient underwent an amputation revision.

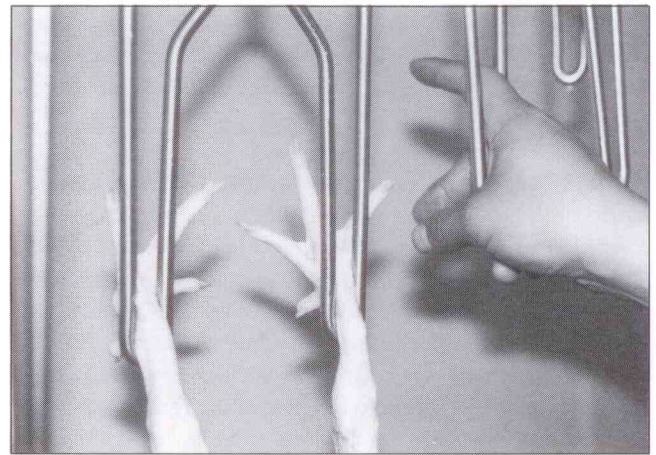
The patient did well in a rehabilitation program. At one month follow-up, the patient had only mild forearm pain and fingertip sensitivity. We were quite satisfied with this result (Figure 3) and the patient was planning to return to work six weeks post injury.

*Dr M Weinberg and Dr E Khairalia  
Department of Plastic Surgery  
University of Toronto  
Dr J Mahoney  
St Michael's Hospital  
Toronto, Ontario*

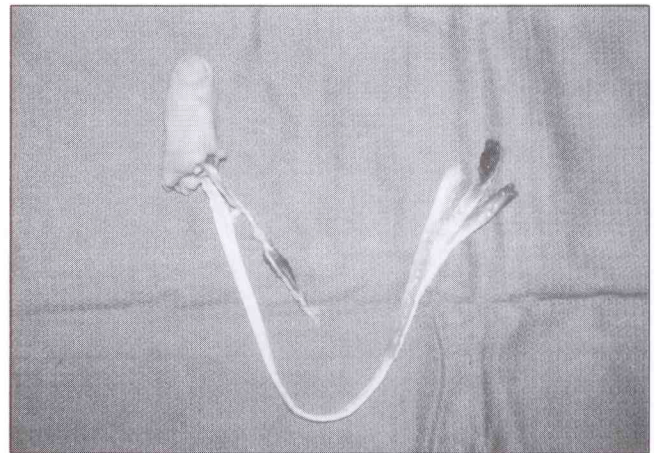
*Correspondence: Dr J Mahoney, Chief Plastic Surgery,  
St Michael's Hospital, 30 Bond Street, Toronto, Ontario  
M5B 1W8*

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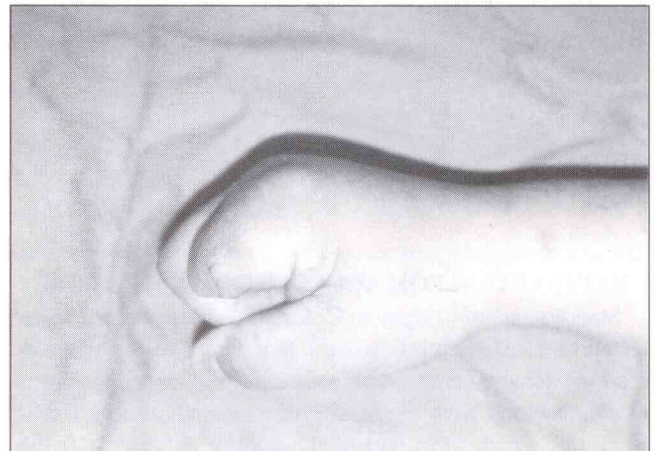
*Editor*



**Figure 1)** Shackles containing a chicken and the index finger of a co-worker (simulating mechanism of injury)



**Figure 2)** The avulsed part contained the middle and distal phalanges as well as the entire flexor digitorum profundus tendon



**Figure 3)** Amputation stump, in maximal flexion, one month post injury