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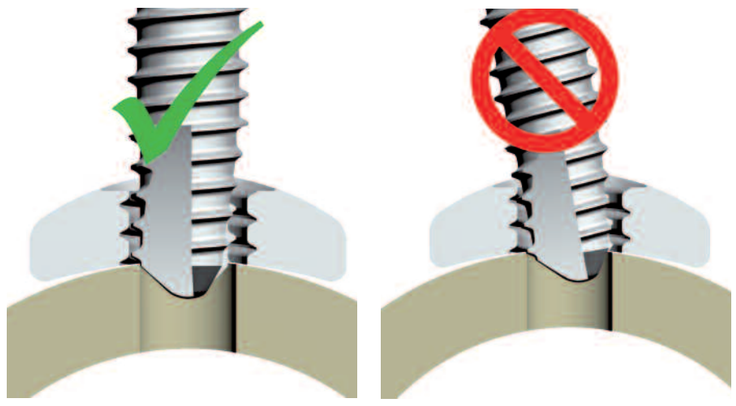
Osteosynthesis

AxSOS™ Locking Plate System

Tips, Tricks, Reminders & Recommendations

Tips, Tricks, Reminders and Recommendations		Comments
1. **Always use the threaded Drill Sleeve** when drilling for Locking Screws (threaded plate hole or Locking Insert).		Freehand drilling will lead to a misalignment of the screw and therefore result in screw jamming during insertion. It is essential, to drill the core hole in the correct trajectory to facilitate accurate insertion of the Locking Screws.
2. **Always start inserting the screw manually** to ensure proper alignment in the plate thread and the core hole. It is recommended to start inserting the screw using "the two finger technique" on the teardrop handle. Avoid any angulations or excessive force on the screwdriver, as this could cross-thread the screw.		If the Locking Screw thread does not immediately engage the plate thread, reverse the screw a few turns and re-insert the screw once it is properly aligned.
3. If power insertion is selected after manual start (see above), **use low speed only, do not apply axial pressure,** and never "push" the screw through the plate! Allow the single, continuous threaded screw design to engage the plate and cut the thread in the bone on its own, as designed. Stop power insertion approximately 1cm before engaging the screw head in the plate.		Power can negatively affect screw insertion if used improperly, thus damaging the screw/plate interface (screw jamming). This can lead to screw heads breaking or being stripped. Again, if the Locking Screw does not advance, reverse the screw a few turns, and realign it before you start re-insertion.
4. It is advisable to **tap hard (dense) cortical bone** before inserting a Locking Screw	 	The spherical tip of the tap precisely aligns the instrument in the pre-drilled core hole during thread cutting. This will facilitate subsequent screw placement.
5. **Do not use power for final insertion of Locking Screws.** It is imperative to engage the screw head into the plate using the Torque Limiting Attachment. Ensure that the screwdriver tip is fully seated in the screw head, but do not apply axial force during final tightening. If the screw stops short of final position, back up a few turns and advance the screw again (with Torque Limiter on).		Power insertion could lead to torque forces well above the recommended values (4Nm for the 4.0mm system, respectively 6Nm for the 5.0mm system) which will damage the screw head.

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