Information on Surgery

Your podiatrist has recommend surgery for the purpose of treating a deformity of one or both of your feet.

The more severe the deformity, the more extensive the treatment necessary to correct it may be. Development of the deformity can be halted in some mild cases by changing the types of shoes worn, by the use of orthotics, or with medicine.

Surgical treatment involves certain risks and complications that can occur. Scarring, infection, swelling, loss of sensation, and recurrence of the deformity are commonly seen complications. Other complications which are more rarely seen (in less than 5% of the surgical cases) are over or under correction of the deformity, enlarged (hypertrophic) scars with secondary contraction and restriction of motion, post-operative deep vein blood clot (thrombosis), persistent swelling, delayed union or non-union of the site or avascular necrosis of the bone site. There are no guarantees that the recommended treatment will correct the problem in all cases.

It is your right and responsibility to share in all decisions about the care you will receive. You should discuss with your podiatrist your individual medical condition and problem, the proposed treatment and other alternatives available to you, and make sure all of your questions are fully answered.

As a general rule regarding foot or ankle surgery we would expect your improvement to be 75% better by 8-12 weeks. Your foot will continue to heal 12 to 18 months. The entire goal of elective surgery is for the intended purpose of reduction of pain and to increase activities.