

## **ANKLE ORIF and ANKLE ARTHROSCOPY**

### **Patient Information**

#### **PROCEDURE**

##### **Ankle ORIF**

Fixation of the ankle fracture on the inside of the ankle, or the outside of the ankle or both. The bones are held together with screws and plates and occasionally wires and staples.

##### **Ankle Arthroscopy**

Treatment of lesions of cartilage and/or loose bodies in the ankle and/ or to determine the cause of pain in the ankle. It requires little cuts around the ankle.

#### **GENERAL RISKS OF A PROCEDURE**

- (a) Small areas of the lungs may collapse, increasing the risk of chest infection. This may need antibiotics and physiotherapy.
- (b) Clots in the legs with pain and swelling. Rarely part of this clot may break off and go to the lungs which can be fatal.
- (c) A heart attack because of strain on the heart or a stroke.
- (d) Death is possible due to the procedure.

#### **RISKS OF THIS PROCEDURE**

- (a) Infection requiring antibiotics and drainage.
- (b) The surgery may not work. This may cause the ankle to give way repeatedly and/ or instability of the ankle.
- (c) Stiffness of the ankle that may or may not require further surgery.
- (d) Nerve damage, which may cause pain around the site of the scar and/ or altered sensation at the back of the foot. This may be temporary or permanent.
- (e) Abnormal pain response to surgery with worsening of pain and disability.
- (f) The surgical cut may cause changes to the sensation and colour of the limb.
- (g) In some people, healing of the wound may be abnormal and the wound can be thickened and red and the scar may be painful.
- (h) Increased risk in obese people of wound infection, chest infection, heart and lung complications and thrombosis.
- (i) Increased risk in smokers of wound and chest infections, heart and lung complications and thrombosis.