BUNION CORRECTION
Patient Information

PROCEDURE

Removal of the bump from the inside of the big toe joint and release of the ligaments between the first and second toes. The bone at the bunion area or below the bunion is cut and re-aligned. Often wires and screws are used to fix the bone in position. A plaster cast is put on and left in place for about 6 weeks.

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) Numbness associated with the use of tourniquet with nerve and muscle damage at the site where the tourniquet was placed. This may be temporary or permanent.
(b) Skin death under the tourniquet, which may require further dressings and / or surgery and skin grafting.
(c) Possible damage to superficial nerves. This may cause numbness around the operation site and in the big toe. This may be temporary or permanent.
(d) Recurrence and lack of correction of the lump.
(e) Death of the bone resulting in stiffness of the big toe joint. This may be temporary or permanent.
(f) Stiffness of the big toe joint. This may be temporary or permanent.
(g) The big toe may stick up in the air. This may happen over time and may require further surgery.
(h) Abnormal pain response to surgery with worsening of pain and disability.
(i) The surgical cut may cause changes to the sensation and colour of the limb.
(j) In some people, healing of the wound may be abnormal and the wound can be thickened and red and the scar may be painful.
(k) Increased risk in obese people of wound infection, chest infection, heart and lung complications and thrombosis.
(l) Increased risk in smokers of wound and chest infections, heart and lung complications and thrombosis.