

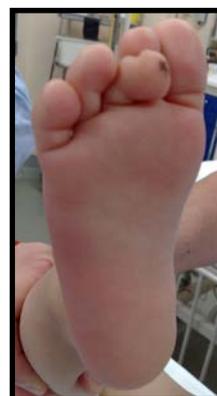
Surgery for curly toes

Introduction

We offer this operation to children with curly toes that cause problems and for whom non-operative treatments have failed. The aim of this leaflet is to answer some of the questions that you or your child may have about the operation. You will also have an opportunity to discuss any further concerns with us, on admission.

What does the operation involve?

The operation is performed as a day case under a general anaesthetic (your child will be asleep). The short procedure (takes about 20 minutes) involves releasing the tight tendon that is causing the toe to curl, through a small incision in the skin crease underneath the toe. We use dissolvable stitches covered by a non sticky dressing and then wrap the foot in a crepe bandage (see picture right).



Are there any risks?

As with all surgery, there are small risks involved, which we will discuss with you fully before you sign the consent form. For this operation the main risks are infection, nerve injury (causing numbness of the toe) or loss of the blood supply to the toe (this is extremely rare). There is also a chance that the tendon could tighten again as your child grows older and his or her feet grow. This would cause the toes to start curling under again but is easily corrected with a repeat of the operation.

What happens after the operation?

Once your child has recovered fully from the anaesthetic, he or she will be allowed to go home. For most children, this is usually four hours after the operation. The nursing staff will give you instructions about the dressing, post-operative pain relief and your follow-up clinic appointment.

Contact us

If you require any further advice please contact:

Children's Foot Clinic Team on 0118 322 5248

Nina Doherty, Clinical Nurse Specialist 0118 322 8746 or 0118 322 5111, bleep 232.

More information

Visit the Trust website at www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk

Friends & Family Test: While you are in hospital please spare a few moments to answer one question 'Would you recommend our service to family and friends if they required similar care or treatment?' by filling in the card given.

This document can be made available in other languages and formats upon request.

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