Toenail Surgery

for Fungal Toenails

What is it?

Toenail surgery is a widely accepted minor procedure for painful problematic nails such as ingrowing toenails, thickened nails, deformed nails, excessively curved nails, or nails with fungal infection.

In the case of a fungal nail, the nail is removed to allow a healthy nail to grow through, whilst treating the nail bed with antifungals.

During your initial consultation your podiatrist will assess your needs and take a thorough medical history. This appointment can last up to 30 minutes.

On the day of surgery

- Eat and drink as normal, avoid alcohol.
- Take any medication as normal, unless advised otherwise.
- Inform the podiatrist on the day, if there are any changes to your medication or medical history.
- If you are prescribed inhalers or sprays of any sort, even if not used regularly please bring on the day.
- You will need to organise transport to and from the clinic, as your car insurance is invalidated with the administration of a local anaesthetic into your foot- you are therefore advised not to drive.
- Please ensure you remove all nail varnish from your toes due to be operated on.

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The Procedure

The procedure will take approximately one hour, depending on the number of toenails. You will remain awake throughout the procedure and will have the option of sitting upright or lying down on the treatment couch, whichever is most comfortable for you.

Please feel free to bring a book or music player with you to pass the time. A local anaesthetic will be used to numb the toe. This is injected at the base of the toe on both sides. After the anaesthetic is given, the toe is tested prior to the procedure to ensure no pain can be felt.

A small rubber band – a tourniquet will be applied to the toe for a short duration.

For fungal toenails, the whole nail is removed.
A large surgical dressing is applied to your toe/s post-operatively. You must leave this dressing in place and keep it dry until your next appointment. This is scheduled within the next 72 hours.

Redressing appointments

A redressing appointment will be made, usually for the following day. At this appointment, your podiatrist will explain the aftercare process with you, and issue you with a redressing pack.

For fungal nails, the nail bed usually heals within 1 -2 weeks, as the nail has NOT been cauterised. At your follow-up appointment, your podiatrist I will give you specific instructions on how to look after your toe/s at home. Your next follow-up appointment will be scheduled for 2 weeks time.

If you have any concerns such as severe pain, or persistent bleeding after the procedure, please contact the clinic on the number provided.

For more information, contact us at Tel. 0118 304 9389 or book online