



Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Fractured Femur

Operation: _____

Side: _____

This procedure is the fixation of the thighbone (femur) using a nail, plate, rod and/or screws.

There are risks and complications with any surgical procedure. They include but are not limited to the following.

General Risks:

- Infection can occur, requiring antibiotics and further treatment.
- Bleeding could occur and may require a return to the operating room. Bleeding is more common if you have been taking blood thinning drugs such as Warfarin, Aspirin, Clopidogrel (Plavix or Iscover) or Dipyridamole (Persantin or Asasantin).
- Small areas of the lung can collapse, increasing the risk of chest infection. This may need antibiotics and physiotherapy.
- Increased risk in obese people of wound infection, chest infection, heart and lung complications, and thrombosis.
- Heart attack or stroke could occur due to the strain on the heart.
- Blood clot in the leg (DVT) causing pain and swelling. In rare cases part of the clot may break off and go to the lungs.
- Death as a result of this procedure is possible.

Specific risks:

- Non-healing of the fracture which may require another operation and/or bone graft.
- Pain at the wound in the buttock (nail insertion site).
- Bone forming in the muscles of the operated hip causing stiffness of the hip. This may require further surgery
- Pain and stiffness in the knee. This may be permanent.
- Removal of the nail at some stage.

- Deformity of the bone with rotation and/or bending of the hip bone causing a limp. This may be permanent.
- Shortening or lengthening of the fractured leg.
- Numbness and/or weakness due to nerve injury. This may be permanent.
- Injury to blood vessels. This may require surgical repair.
- Breakage and loosening of screws/ wires/ staples. These may have to be removed by having further surgery.
- The bones may not knit properly. This may require further surgery and removal of plate and screws.
- Numbness may occur at the site where the tourniquet was placed due to nerve and muscle damage, caused by the tourniquet. This may be temporary or permanent. Another operation may be required to correct the situation.
- Skin death under the tourniquet, which may require further dressings and / or surgery and skin grafting.
- Damage to nerves and/or blood vessels. This may require further surgery.
- Abnormal pain response to surgery with worsening of pain and disability.
- The surgical cut may cause changes to the sensation and colour of the limb.
- In some people, healing of the wound may be abnormal and the wound can be thickened and red and the scar may be painful.

Anaesthetic Risks:

There are risks associated with all anaesthetic types (including general, spinal or regional). These risks are relative to each patient's past medical and family history. Your anaesthetist will discuss the specifics of your anaesthetic with you prior to surgery.



Name: _____

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I agree that I have discussed the risks and benefits of the aforementioned procedure and have had a chance to discuss the treatment options available to me with Dr John Roe.

I request to have the procedure.

Patient:

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Patient Carer or Advocate:

Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Surgeon: Dr John Roe

Signature: _____

Date: _____