3rd International Conference on

ORTHOPEDICS

December 05-06, 2022 | Dubai, UAE

Received date: 10.11.2022 | Accepted date: 13.11.2022 | Published date: 03.01.2023



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Novel bunion surgery fixation vs old school standards - The Middle East experience

Modern surgical treatment of hallux valgus is based on radiological assessment of the deformity in standing a/p and lateral x-rays of the foot. Distal soft tissue procedures are an important part of valgus deformity correction and enable reduction of the sesamoids. However, this is mostly recommended in combination with a bony procedure. Proximal osteotomies on average allow a greater correction than distal osteotomies. Most surgeons choose a V-shaped Chevron-osteotomy for mild deformities with a hallux valgus angle (HVA) up to 19° and a intermetatarsal angle (IMA) to 13°. Diaphyseal osteotomies (Scarf-osteotomy, Ludloff-osteotomy) are recommended for moderate deformities (HVA 20° to 40°, IMA 14° to 20°). Severe deformities (HVA > 40°, IMA > 20°) are usually corrected with diaphyseal osteotomies performed by experienced surgeons or with basal osteotomies and with a Lapidus arthrodesis respectively. Correction of the distal metatarsal articular angle (DMAA) which is significantly larger in juvenile hallux valgus deformity is crucial for satisfying results, if necessary, in combination with a second rotational osteotomy (double osteotomy). Interphalangeal hallux valgus can be corrected with the Akin-Osteotomy. First metatarsophalangeal joint arthrodesis is indicated for hallux valgus in severe or neuropathic deformities and as a salvage procedure following failed surgery.

A novel fixation method, used mostly in Austria, Switzerland and Germany allows for a wider range of indication or distal surgery and acts as great option for correction while fully weightbearing. After 320 German and 101 cases in UAE it is a proven method for very happy patients, avoiding 6 weeks or longer in special shoes or non-weight bearing procedures.

Recent publications

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Biography

Poessel has completed his PhD in 2011 from Middleham University and postdoctoral studies at Heinrich-Heine-Universät Düsseldorf, School of Medicine. He is a senior consultant of Orthopaedic Surgery and Sports Medicine in Mediclinic Middle East, a top player in World Healthcare. He has published multiple papers in reputed journals and online and has been serving as an editorial board member of an Internet Based Journal.

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