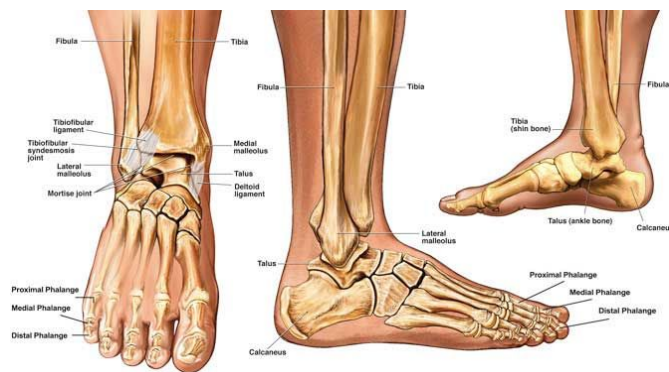


# What are the risks of ankle replacement surgery?



Ankle replacement surgery is very successful in most cases, but it does have some risks. These include:

- Infection
- Damage to nearby nerves
- Bleeding
- Blood clot
- The bones not joining together properly
- Misalignment of the bones
- New arthritis in neighboring joints
- Loosening of the artificial components, which might

- eventually need a  
follow-up surgery
- Wearing out of the  
components

Your own risk of complications may vary according to your age and your other medical conditions. For example, if you are a smoker or if you have low bone density, you may have an increased risk of certain complications.

People with poorly controlled diabetes may also have an increased risk. Talk with your healthcare provider about all your concerns, including the risks most relevant to you.

How do I get ready for ankle replacement surgery?

Talk with your healthcare provider about what to do to prepare for your ankle

replacement surgery. Ask whether you should stop taking any medicines, like blood thinners, ahead of time. If you smoke, try to stop smoking before your procedure. Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including over-the-counter medicines like aspirin. Also, tell your healthcare provider about any changes in your

overall health, such as a recent fever.

Before your procedure, you may need additional imaging tests, like X-rays, CT scan, or MRI.

You may need to rearrange your living arrangements as you recover because you'll need to use crutches for several weeks. Have

someone available to drive you home from the hospital.

You'll need to avoid food and drink after midnight the night before your procedure.