





Surgery for your bunions

Seven's On Call



(New York-WABC, July 31, 2006) - Millions of Americans suffer with painful bunions. Before they know it, the pain is so bad, they have to see a foot surgeon.

Many people believe surgery could be put off. But that may not necessarily be true.

Seven's On Call with Dr. Jay Adlersberg.

For Gaby Ciarlo, a top Manhattan stylist, doing her job wells depends not only on her cutting skills but also on her ability to stay on her feet. But a year ago it was time to think about surgery for her bunions.

Gaby Giarlo, Bunion Patient: its always a difficult decision because first of all you have to take the time off you're afraid of the pain and its surgery.

Dr. John Mancuso examined Gaby Giarlo and did surgery on one bunion, the right toe.

Dr. Mancuso: "This is someone who waited too long before having the surgery and a simple bunion correction taunted into an arthritic bunion correction."

There was serious cartilage damage and that meant a joint prosthesis, a plastic and metal insert that now serves as the joint hinge. But, which will give Gaby relief for possibly the rest of her life. Her recovery was several months of physical therapy.

Her other bunion, while large, is not yet giving her pain.

Mary Claude Londa had her bunion surgery just one week before. Like most patients, she's out walking and going through physical therapy immediately.

Mary Claude Londa, Bunion Surgery Patient: "It got to where walking was painful and I love to walk."

Her podiatrist, Dr. Steven Abramow, says an important variable for surgery is the quality of the toe movement.

Dr. Steven Abramow, Podiatrist: "It's a dynamic joint we use for walking normally and when you lose flexibility in that joint in affects your ability to walk properly it affects your gait."

A person's age and what effect the bunion is having are variable in decisions for surgery.

It used to be said wait as long as long as possible before surgery but modern thinking says have bunions evaluated if they're starting to hurt.

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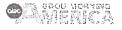
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Have Bunions Evaluated When They Start to Hurt: NY Podiatrists

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Source: Jay Adlersberg, WABC-TV (NY) [7/31/06]