

Ankle Open Reduction and Internal Fixation

Understanding Your Risks

This document outlines the potential complications associated with **arthroscopic anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) reconstruction**. This is a surgical procedure performed using small incisions and a camera (arthroscope) to reconstruct the torn ACL using a graft. The graft may be obtained from the patient's own tissue (autograft) or from donor tissue (allograft), depending on patient factors and surgeon recommendation. Additional procedures, such as meniscal repair or partial meniscectomy, may be performed if indicated.

The usual purpose of surgery is to **restore knee stability, improve function, reduce episodes of giving way, and allow return to desired activities**, while helping to prevent further damage to the knee joint in patients with ACL deficiency.

Risks:

- **Persistent or recurrent knee pain**
- **Knee stiffness or loss of motion**
- **Recurrent instability or graft failure**
- **Failure of graft incorporation or stretching of the graft over time**
- **Infection** (superficial or deep, including septic arthritis)
- **Bleeding or hematoma formation**
- **Blood clots** (deep vein thrombosis or pulmonary embolism)
- **Nerve injury** (including injury to the saphenous, peroneal, or tibial nerves)
- **Blood vessel injury**
- **Fracture related to tunnel placement or fixation**
- **Hardware-related complications** (loosening, breakage, prominence, or need for removal)
- **Donor site pain or weakness** (with autograft)

- **Disease transmission or immune reaction** (with allograft, extremely rare)
- **Post-traumatic arthritis**
- **Need for revision surgery**
- **Medical complications** (myocardial infarction, stroke, pneumonia, cardiac or pulmonary events—rare)
- **Death** (extremely rare)

Risk Factors for Increased Complications:

- **Poor compliance with postoperative rehabilitation**
- **Smoking or tobacco use**
- **Obesity**
- **Diabetes or other medical comorbidities**
- **Prior knee surgery**
- **Associated ligament, cartilage, or meniscal injuries**

Patient Acknowledgment:

By signing below, the patient acknowledges understanding of the above risks associated with ACL reconstruction and all questions have been answered to the patient's satisfaction.

Patient Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Patient Name: _____ **DOB:** _____

