

WELCOME TO RECONSTRUCTIVE FOOT & ANKLE INSTITUTE, LLC

NEWS YOU CAN USE! This is a weekly newsletter about various topics related to foot and ankle wellness.

Listen to our Podcasts and view our videos on foot and ankle problems at:

www.rfainstitute.com

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Frederick 301.418.6014 (866.338.FOOT), 2100 Old Farm Drive, Suite D, 21702

We provide Comprehensive Foot and Ankle Care® to the residents of Central Maryland with offices currently in Hagerstown and Frederick, Maryland. From basic care of ingrown toenails, heel pain and warts to reconstructive procedures and management of complex pain conditions, we provide a one-stop shop for all your needs. For your convenience, all recommended medicines and foot-care products are available through our in-office and online retail stores www.rfainstitute.com. Same day and emergency appointments are available without a wait. Our staff is approachable and knowledgeable with a willingness to help and solve your foot and ankle problems. We focus on conservative, non-surgical treatment and exhaust these options prior to recommending surgery. Our providers work with you as a patient and partner by listening to and educating you about treatment options so you can make an informed choice of treatment that fits your individual needs.

FLIP-FLOPS TIED TO SURGE IN TEENAGE HEEL PAIN

Many of us are welcoming the warmer weather sporting flip-flop sandals, however, their popularity among teens and young adults is responsible for a growing epidemic of heel pain in this population, according to Daniel D. Michaels, DPM, MS, FACFAS.

“We’re seeing more heel pain than ever in patients 15 to 25 years old, a group that usually doesn’t have this problem,” says Dr. Michaels. “A major contributor is wearing flip-flop sandals with paper-thin soles everyday to school. Flip-flops have no arch support and can accentuate any abnormal biomechanics in foot motion, and this eventually brings pain and inflammation.”

Dr. Michaels recommends wearing sandals with reasonably strong soles and arch support. “Especially for girls and young women, thicker soled sandals with supportive arches might not be considered stylish, but if you want to wear sandals most of the time, you’ll avoid heel pain if you choose sturdier, perhaps less fashionable styles,” He says.

It is estimated that 15 percent of all adult foot complaints involve plantar fasciitis, the type of heel pain caused by chronic inflammation of the connective tissue extending from the heel bone to the toes. Being overweight and wearing inappropriate footwear are common contributing factors.

The pain is most noticeable after getting out of bed in the morning, and it tends to decrease after a few minutes and returns during the day as time on the feet increases. Not all heel pain, however, is caused by plantar fasciitis. It also can occur from inflammation of the Achilles tendon, bursitis, arthritis, gout, stress fractures, or irritation of one or more of the nerves in the region. Therefore, diagnosis by a foot and ankle surgeon to rule out other causes is advised.

Initial treatment options for heel pain caused by plantar fasciitis should include anti-inflammatory medications, padding and strapping of the foot and physical therapy. Patients also should stretch their calf muscles regularly, avoid wearing flat shoes and walking barefoot, use over-the-counter arch supports and heel cushions, and limit the frequency of extended physical activities.

Most patients with plantar fasciitis respond to non-surgical treatment within six weeks. However, surgery is sometimes necessary to relieve severe, persistent pain.

For further information about foot or ankle conditions, contact Dr. Michaels and the Reconstructive Foot & Ankle Institute, LLC at www.rfainstitute.com or make an appointment with one of our offices in Maryland:

Hagerstown 301.797.8554 (877.797.FOOT), 1150 Professional Court, Suite C, 21740
Frederick 301.418.6014 (866.338.FOOT), 2100 Old Farm Drive, Suite D, 21702

SERVICES OFFERED (REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE) AT RECONSTRUCTIVE FOOT & ANKLE INSTITUTE, LLC:

Peripheral Nerve Surgery

In Office X-ray and Ultrasound

Athlete's foot Management <http://www.rfainstitute.com/athletesfoot.htm>

Bunionette Management <http://www.rfainstitute.com/bunionette.htm>

Bunion management <http://www.rfainstitute.com/bunions.htm>

Corn and Callus Management <http://www.rfainstitute.com/corns.htm>

Neuroma Management <http://www.rfainstitute.com/mortonsneuroma.htm>

Fracture Repair

Diabetic Neuropathy <http://www.rfainstitute.com/diabetes.htm>

Haglunds Deformity Management <http://www.rfainstitute.com/haglunds.htm>

Mycotic (Fungal) Toenail Management <http://www.rfainstitute.com/nailfungus.htm>

IPK Repair <http://www.rfainstitute.com/ipk.htm>

Endoscopy/Arthroscopy

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Wart removal <http://www.rfainstitute.com/warts.htm>
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Lawnmower Injury Repair
Sports Medicine Management
Plantar Fasciitis/Heel Pain <http://www.rfainstitute.com/heelpain.htm>
Injectable Implants
Arthritis Management
Diabetic Foot Care/Limb Salvage
Neuropathy Care
Custom Shoes
Orthotics and leg braces
Ankle Sprain Care
Rheumatoid Foot Care
Ulcer Care and Prevention
Trauma Management
Retail foot care supply store on site/ on line at www.rfainstitute.com
Shockwave Therapy <http://www.rfainstitute.com/shockwavetherapy.htm>
Tarsal Tunnel Management <http://www.rfainstitute.com/tarsaltunnel.htm>
Tendonitis Management <http://www.rfainstitute.com/tendonitis.htm>
Neuroma Correction
Hammertoe repair <http://www.rfainstitute.com/hammertoes.htm>
Laser Surgery
In office Surgery Center
In office Fluoroscan

INSURANCE COMPANIES RECONSTRUCTIVE FOOT AND ANKLE INSTITUTE,
LLC PARTICIPATES WITH:

Accordia
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Optimum Choice
Physicians Health Care Systems (PHCS)
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Tricare
Tricare Prime
United Health Care
US Family Health
Workers Compensation

Thank you for your interest in the Reconstructive Foot & Ankle Institute, LLC. Daniel Michaels, DPM, MS, FACFAS and Johny Motran, DPM are Podiatrists at the Institute providing Comprehensive Foot & Ankle Care® and are board certified or board eligible by the American Board of Podiatric Surgery and are also Fellows or Associates of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons. No problem is too small or large to manage in our friendly, warm, state-of-the-art facilities. All Providers have full hospital privileges at Washington County Hospital and Frederick Memorial Hospital and have trained at one or more of the following facilities to provide you with the most efficient and effective care possible: Yale University, University of Maryland (College Park, Shock Trauma), University of Texas (Dallas, Austin, San Antonio), University of California at San Francisco, Harvard University, and Temple University.

We utilize efficient scheduling so you don't have to wait for an appointment or in our waiting room when you arrive. All locations are open Monday through Friday with same day and emergency appointments available. Patients are treated in a pleasant, friendly environment utilizing evidence-based medical approaches to all ailments.

Our offices provide in-office diagnostic ultrasound, X-ray, fluoroscopy, shockwave therapy, ambulatory surgical care and physical therapy services. We treat all foot and ankle pathology from pediatric to geriatric, diabetic foot care/amputation prevention, heel pain, trauma, bunions, ingrown toenails and hammertoes. A full array of shoes and braces that support lower extremity pathology and augment surgical repair as well as advanced surgical techniques are available. The Institute participates with most insurance

plans and offers patients the convenience of an on-site and online retail store supplying foot and ankle products as well as a full line of dress, athletic and custom shoes.

Please visit our website at www.rfainstitute.com to learn more about the Institute. For questions and other information e-mail us at info@rfainstitute.com.

To make an appointment at our **Frederick office**, please call **301.418.6014** or **866.338.FOOT(3668)**. 2100 Old Farm Drive Ste. D, Frederick, MD 21702

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We look forward to solving your foot and ankle problems.

Very truly yours,

Dr. Daniel D. Michaels, DPM, MS, FACFAS

Dr. Johny J. Motran, DPM, AACFAS