

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

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We provide Comprehensive Foot and Ankle Care® to our patients with offices currently in Frederick and Hagerstown, 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. If you need surgery we have advanced training in all types of foot and ankle surgery to ensure your optimal outcome. 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.

Foot of the class

After wearing flip-flops all summer, students head back to school with painful feet

The sounds of back to school season include the ringing of school bells and cash registers, the slamming of locker doors, the noisy ruckus of school hallways and cafeterias, and the moans and groans of students over tests, homework, relationships, and increasingly, their aching feet.

Flip-flops are the summer footwear of choice for many students. But while these sandals are inexpensive and stylish, they don't cushion or support the foot, leading to problems. After wearing flip-flops all summer, some students will head back to school this fall with foot pain and even injuries. Dr. Daniel D. Michaels, DPM, MS, FACFAS, a foot and ankle surgeon with offices in Frederick and Hagerstown, Maryland, reminds parents and students that foot pain isn't normal and can be reduced or eliminated.

“People may not realize that even into your mid-teens, there’s new bone growing in your heel,” says Dr. Michaels. “Flip-flops don’t cushion the heel, so repetitive stress from walking can inflame that heel bone growth area and cause pain and tenderness.”

Heel pain and arch pain rank among the most common complaints among students who wear flip-flops. Other flip-flop foot problems students can take back to school include inflammation of the Achilles tendon, painful pinched nerves, sprained ankles, broken or sprained toes, cuts and scrapes, plantar warts, Athlete’s foot, and callus build-up on the heels and toes.

Foot and ankle surgeons can usually reduce or eliminate students’ foot pain with simple treatment methods including stretching exercises, ice massage, anti-inflammatory medications, and custom or over-the-counter shoe inserts.

Back to school season will always be painful for some students, but it doesn’t need to involve foot pain.

For further information about foot or ankle conditions, contact one of our foot and ankle surgeons at the Reconstructive Foot & Ankle Institute, LLC. Visit us on the web at www.rfainstitute.com or make an appointment with one of our state of the art 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

Flatfoot Repair

Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery

Pediatric Care

Wart removal <http://www.rfainstitute.com/warts.htm>
Ingrown Nail Repair <http://www.rfainstitute.com/ingrownail.htm>
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 Fluoroscanner

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

Accordia
Aetna US Healthcare
American Progressive (Medicare HMO)
Beech Street
Blue Cross Blue Shield Federal
Blue Cross Blue Shield National Accounts
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Maryland
Blue Cross Blue Shield of National Capital (NCPPO)
Carefirst Blue Choice
Carefirst Blue Card Members
Cigna
Conventry
Coresource
Federal Medical Assistance
Fidelity
First Health
GEHA

Great West
Informed
IWIF
Johns Hopkins
Kaiser
Mail Handlers
Mamsi
MDIPA
Maryland Physicians Care
Medicare
National Association of Letter Carriers
NCAS
One Net-Alliance
Optimum Choice
Physicians Health Care Systems (PHCS)
Preferred Health Network
Priority Partners
Today's Options (Medicare HMO)
Tricare
Tricare Prime
United Health Care
US Family Health
Workers Compensation

Thank you for your interest in the Reconstructive Foot & Ankle Institute, LLC. No problem is too small or large to manage in our pleasant, friendly, warm, state-of-the-art facilities that utilize evidenced based medical solutions to all ailments. We provide Comprehensive Foot and Ankle Care® to our patients with offices in Frederick and Hagerstown, Maryland. At the Reconstructive Foot & Ankle Institute, LLC our experienced qualified and highly trained Practitioners and Patient Care Professionals are dedicated to providing quality compassionate care to our patients. We strive to help make a difference in the quality of life for these individuals.

The Institute provides evaluation and management services from basic care of ingrown toenails, heel pain and warts to reconstructive procedures and management of complex pain conditions, pediatric to geriatric, diabetic foot care/amputation prevention, heel pain, trauma, bunions, ingrown toenails and hammertoes. We focus on conservative, non-surgical treatment and exhaust these options prior to recommending surgery. If you need surgery, we have advanced training in all types of foot and ankle surgery to ensure your optimal outcome. 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. All Providers have full hospital privileges at Washington County Hospital and Frederick Memorial Hospital as well as our on site ambulatory surgical center in Hagerstown to provide you with the most efficient and effective care possible. Our staff is approachable and knowledgeable with a willingness to help and solve your foot and ankle problems.

Efficient scheduling, same day, emergency appointments and convenient hours are available without a wait. Our offices provide in-office diagnostic ultrasound, X-ray (digital radiography), fluoroscopy, shockwave therapy, electronic prescribing, electronic medical records, ambulatory surgical care, physical therapy services, nerve, vein and arterial testing and medical equipment for rent or purchase. 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 over the counter foot and ankle care products as well as a full line of dress, athletic and custom shoes, sandals and braces.

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

To make an appointment at our Hagerstown office, please call 301.797.8554 or 877.797.FOOT(3668). 1150 Professional Court, Suite C, Hagerstown, MD 21740

We look forward to solving your foot and ankle problems with Comprehensive Foot and Ankle Care®.

Very truly yours,

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