

COMMON PERONEAL NERVE DECOMPRESSION

In most cases the condition will improve by itself and anti-inflammatory medication may help in the short term. If the symptoms are mild, a conservative approach will more likely be adopted, however surgery will be indicated if the condition progresses or if there is any weakness causing significant footdrop.

OPERATION

The operation involves relieving the pressure around the nerve. It can be performed under local or general anaesthetic. A small incision is made on the outside of the knee where the nerve winds around the fibula bone. It is freed up under direct vision and stitches placed in the skin. You are usually able to go home after the operation.

Risks of this procedure

- · Infection around the wound.
- Bleeding around the wound.
- · Nerve damage resulting in weakness and/or numbness of the toes. Rarely this requires reoperation.
- Failure of resolution of the symptoms.
- · Tenderness around the scar, which may be permanent

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