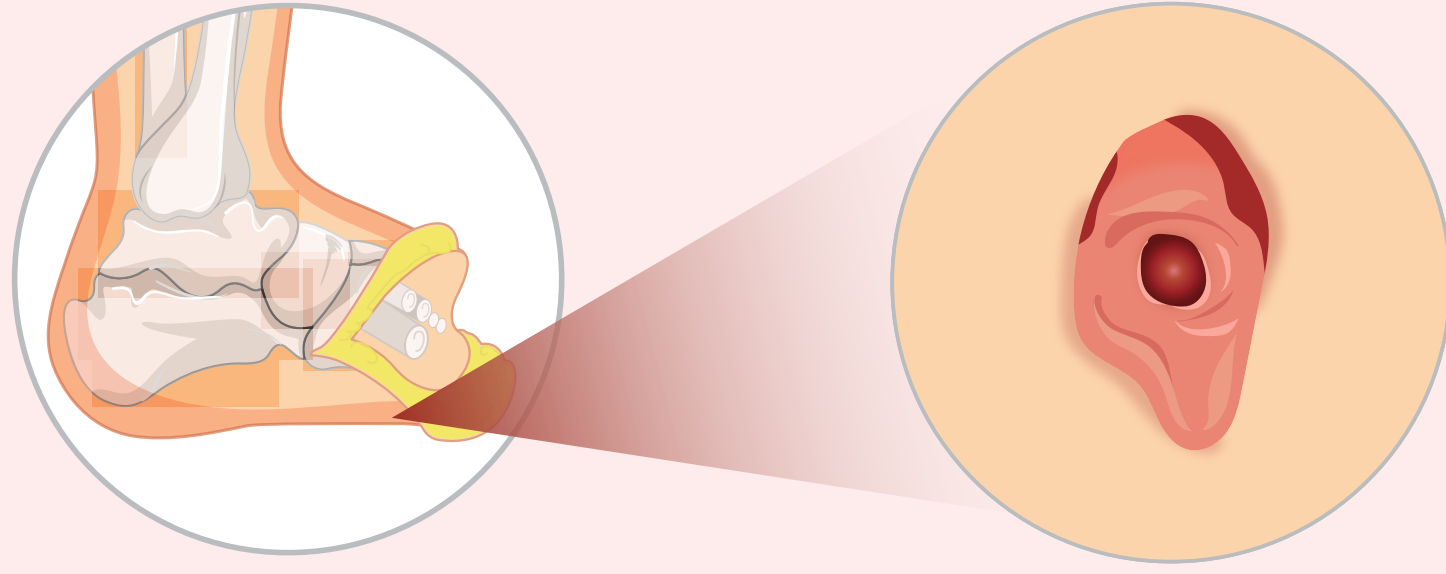


Occurrence of Late Forefoot Ulcerations After Transmetatarsal Amputation

Many patients undergoing transmetatarsal amputation (TMA) show late development of ulcers caused by increased pressure on the forefoot



Achilles tendon lengthening (ATL) can reduce this pressure, but its potential for reducing ulcers post TMA is unclear

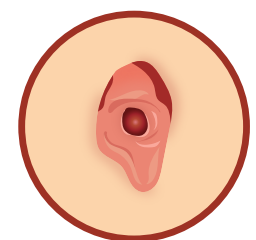


Retrospective review of 83 patients who underwent TMA (>120 days follow-up)

ATL + TMA
(30 feet)

TMA
(55 feet)

Outcomes assessed



Presence of
ulceration



Time to
ulceration



Patient
age



Complications

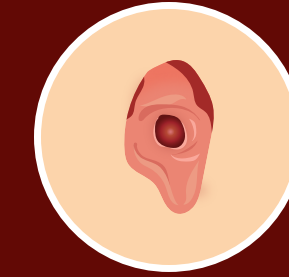
TMA

35%

587 days

55%

VS



Development of late forefoot
ulcerations ($p < 0.001$)



Mean time from surgery to
ulcer development



Probability of remaining
ulcer free ($p < 0.01$)

TMA + ATL

3%

695 days

92%

Among patients
who developed
late forefoot
ulcers

47% had osteomyelitis

16% underwent more
proximal amputation



Older patients were less likely
to develop late ulcerations after
surgery compared to younger
patients
($p = 0.006$)



Prophylactic ATL at the time of TMA can reduce the risk of late forefoot ulceration, especially in younger patients

Concomitant Achilles Tendon Lengthening with Transmetatarsal Amputation for the Prevention of Late Forefoot Ulceration

Bullock et al. (2022) | DOI: 10.2106/JBJS.21.00888

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