

## success rate?

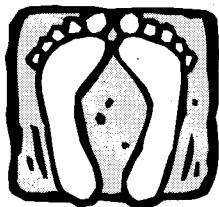
Nail surgery has a very high success rate.

## possible complications?

- post operative pain.
- re-growth of the nail.
- infection.

### Diabetes Australia-NSW

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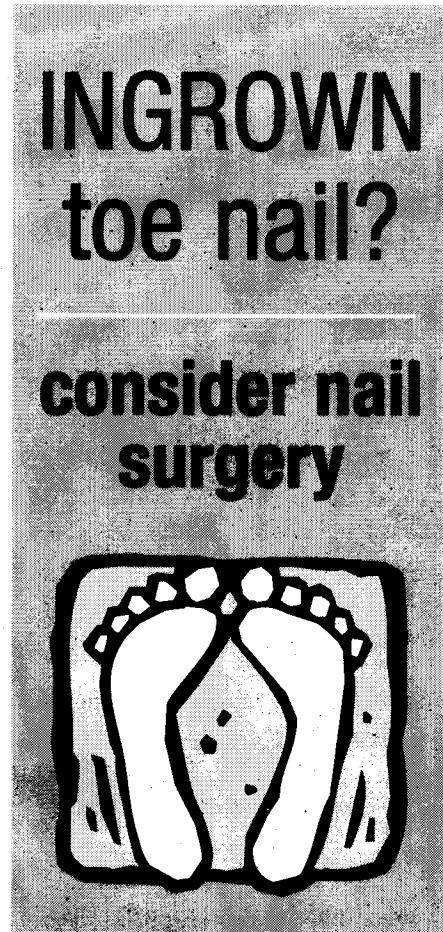


created and produced for the health and safety of all feet  
owned by those who have diabetes



developed by Dollien Khoury for  
the Liverpool Health Service Podiatry Department  
and produced by Diabetes Australia-NSW

**July 1998**



# ingrown toe nail?

## consider nail surgery

*Nail surgery is a minor procedure which involves removing part or all of the nail. This is done in such a way that the nail does not grow back.*

## when is nail surgery required?

- when an ingrown toe nail repeatedly gets infected.
- when the toe is continually painful.
- when you are unable to wear closed shoes.

## what does the procedure involve?

An assessment of the patient is carried out. This involves a complete neurovascular examination. This examination is done with consideration to current medications, illnesses and age to determine whether the person is fit for surgery.

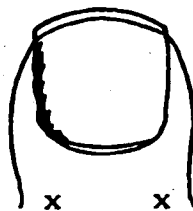
A local anaesthetic is given to numb the toe. This involves two injections, one on either side of the toe.

An elastic type device is then applied to the toe to prevent bleeding. This is called a tourniquet.

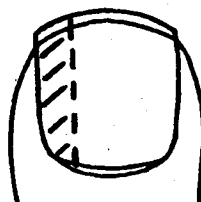
Once anaesthesia has been achieved, the offending nail is lifted and pulled out.

A solution of phenol is then applied to the matrix of the nail - this is where the nail grows from, to prevent it from regrowing. This is then dressed and allowed to heal. Upon healing, you should be left with a pain free toe.

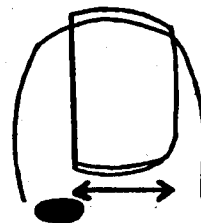
The procedure just described involves removing one side of the nail only. This same procedure may be used to remove both sides of the nail, or the entire nail if necessary.



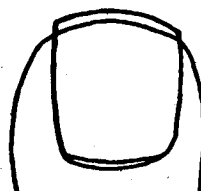
x = Where the anaesthetic injection is given.



Part of the nail to be removed.



Where the solution is placed after the nail is removed.



Nail treated.

Telephone numbers are correct at time of publication but are not continually updated. You may need to check the numbers in the telephone directory.

**REVIEWED**  
October 2003  
NSW Multicultural Health Communication Service