

Key Session 8

[O85] INTERNAL PEDAL AMPUTATIONS

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Internal amputations are not a contemporary concept. Link in 1887 and Witzel and Hoffmann in 1889 performed internal Chopart amputations when skeletal tuberculosis was a common problem. Due to the rarity of tuberculosis these days, an internal Chopart amputation represents just one of various pedal amputation techniques that have fallen into oblivion.

Problems with the technically demanding fitting of prostheses or custom-made orthopaedic shoes had resulted in a replacement of those procedures by standardised transtibial amputations. Vast improvements of prosthetics and custom shoemaking within the past few decades justify the re-evaluation of individual and atypical resections and amputations possible within the foot.

Additional tools like external fixators or antibiotic-loaded bone void fillers make those procedures particularly suitable for limb salvage in marked bone infections among diabetic foot patients.