

Trapezectomy and Suspensoplasty with Mini TightRope

This handout is provided to you by Dr. Chen Tu and the team at Wakefield Orthopaedic Clinic. Our goal is to ensure you receive comprehensive care and are fully informed about your upcoming Trapezectomy and Suspensoplasty with Mini TightRope surgery.

Understanding the Procedure

The Trapezectomy and Suspensoplasty with Mini TightRope is a surgical treatment for thumb basal joint arthritis, where the arthritic trapezium bone is removed, and the stability of the thumb is enhanced using a Mini TightRope—a device that provides support and maintains the space where the



trapezium was removed. This procedure aims to relieve pain, restore thumb mobility, and maintain strength.



Benefits of the Surgery

- **Pain Relief:** Effective in relieving the chronic pain associated with thumb arthritis.
- Improved Function: Restores thumb mobility and allows for better grip strength.
- **Durability:** Offers a long-lasting solution to thumb basal joint arthritis.



The Day of Surgery

- The procedure is typically performed as Day Surgery.
- Local anaesthesia will be used to ensure your comfort during the surgery. This can cause numbness for 6 to 36 hours after surgery.
- During the surgery, the trapezium bone is removed, and the Mini TightRope is installed to stabilize the thumb and maintain the gap created by the trapezium's removal.
- The incisions are closed with Steri Strips and absorbable stitches and covered with dressings and a splint.

Postoperative Care

- **Immediate Post-Op:** You may experience some discomfort and swelling, which can be managed with medication.
- **Rehabilitation:** *Hand therapy is a crucial part of the recovery* to regain strength and mobility in the thumb.
- **Splint:** splint from surgery is used for 2 weeks, a splint fashioned by hand therapist should be used for a further 4 weeks.
- **Follow-Up Visits:** Dr. Chen Tu will schedule follow-up appointments to monitor your healing and guide your recovery process.

Risks and Potential Complications

Risks include infection, nerve damage, and complications related to anaesthesia. There is also a risk of the Mini TightRope failing, which might require additional surgery. Dr. Chen Tu will discuss these risks with you in detail.

Contact Information

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Conclusion

At Wakefield Orthopaedic Clinic, Dr. Chen Tu and our team are committed to supporting you through the Trapezectomy and Suspensoplasty with Mini TightRope procedure, from preparation through recovery. Our aim is to help you achieve the best possible outcomes for a pain-free and functional thumb.

For any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.