

SURGERY FOR THE LOWER EXTREMITY- FRACTURE OR SLIPPED CAPITAL FEMORAL EPIPHYSIS INFORMATION SHEET

PEDIATRIC SECTION OF THE ORTHOPAEDIC DEPARTMENT

General indications for the procedure: Indications for the procedure include fracture non union (if the fracture is not healing), fracture malunion (if the fracture has healed in an unacceptable position), unacceptable position of the fracture, avascular necrosis (loss of blood supply to the femoral head) as well as deformity of the femoral head or neck.

Description of the procedure: After the patient is put to sleep he/she will be placed on a special table (fracture table). Care will be taken not to manipulate the leg if the patient has a SCFE. If the patient has a fracture, the leg will be positioned to achieve an anatomic reduction (putting the fracture in the correct position). If possible, screws will be placed to maintain the position. If anatomic alignment cannot be achieved then the physician will need to proceed with an open reduction (making an incision, looking at the fracture and putting it in the correct position), followed by placement of hardware.

Risks of the procedure: Risks of the procedure include yet are not limited to infection, bleeding, damage to nerves or vessels, refracture, loss of reduction, non union, malunion as well as need for further surgery exist. Other risks include avascular necrosis (loss of blood supply to the bone) or chondrolysis (deterioration of the cartilage)

Procedure alternatives: The alternative to the procedure would be observation.

Probable consequences of refusing the procedure: Probable consequences of refusing the procedure could include: worsening of the fracture of position with further loss of reduction, deformity of the extremity, as well as loss of range of motion.

Person(s) performing the procedure: The procedure will be performed by the attending surgeon who is a member of the medical staff of Rush University Medical Center and/or resident/fellow under the direct supervision of the attending surgeon. Resident/Fellows are licensed physicians in approved residency or post residency training programs. Parts of the procedure which they perform will be consistent with hospital policy and based on their level of training.