

# The SCARF osteotomy as a method in revision surgery after failed hallux valgus surgery

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## Introduction:

More than 150 methods are known for the correction of hallux valgus deformity. One well known complication is the recurrence of the deformity.

The authors present the results of the SCARF osteotomy as a method for revision after failed primary surgery.

## Material and methods:

Thirty patients with 31 feet were operated on for recurrent hallux valgus after failed primary surgery. Of those patients 24 with 26 feet could be seen for follow up examination with a minimum of one year follow up time (12-75 months). Two other patients could be contacted by telephone. One patient has died. Primary surgery consisted of 10 resection arthroplasties, 12 exostostectomies, 4 Austin, 1 Scarf and 1 Kramer osteotomy.

## Results:

table 1

	preop	postop
AOFAS	57.3 (22-68)	88.5 (68-100)
HVA	31° (20-45)	9° (-3-20)
IMA	13° (10-19)	4° (1-8)
ROM	67° (25-105)	57° (25-95)

Twenty two patients were very satisfied and four patients satisfied with the result of the revision surgery.



preop

St.p.  
Kramer



postop

table 2

Results of SCARF after	primary resection arthroplasty	primary joint preserving
ROM	49° (25 - 80)	60° (30 - 95)
AOFAS	86 (68 - 90)	89 (77 - 100)



preop

St.p.  
Keller  
Brandes



postop

## Complications:

Screw irritation	3
Transient paraesthesia great toe	2
Overcorrection (3°)	1
Recurrent hallux valgus (20°)	1

## Conclusion:

The SCARF osteotomy serves as a good and safe method after failed primary hallux valgus surgery for selected cases. It offers a good postoperative stability and can correct a pathologic distal metatarsal articular angle. If there is only medial pain around the MTPI because of recurrent hallux valgus, but no "intraarticular" pain the SCARF osteotomy can be used to correct a failed primary joint arthroplasty.

### Literature:

Kitaoka HB, Patzer GL. Salvage treatment of failed hallux valgus operations with proximal first metatarsal osteotomy and distal soft-tissue reconstruction. *Foot Ankle Int.* 1998; 19: 127  
 Kristen KH, Berger C, Stelzig S. The SCARF osteotomy for the correction of hallux valgus deformities. *Foot & Ankle Int* 2002; 23(3): 221  
 L.S. Barouk. *Forefoot reconstruction.* Springer-Verlag 2002