

SURGICAL SALVAGE PROCEDURES AFTER SEVERE BONE INFECTION

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In our modern times we have due to the life style a lot of high energy traumas. More than that, we operate nearly all fractures independent from the compliance and the age of the patient. Sometimes the bone defect results from trauma directly, sometimes it is the result after numerous operations. Each patient wants to keep his extremity, a natural and understandable wish. And there are more options than the Ilizarov procedure independent from age. Ilizarov does function only up to 65 years. Other possibilities are:

- free bone transplants
- free osteocutaneous transplants
- allografts
- open Ilizarov transport
- free flap transfer

In the beginning a concept has to be established integrating all disciplines: Orthopedic surgeon, plastic surgeon, vascular surgeon, rehabilitation. If this is cleared to each individuell patient we have to make a program. Amputation is a thread during the whole course. But it is worth to try to keep the implant.