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## **Post- Surgical Nail Procedure Instructions**

- 1. Begin soaking 24 hours after the procedure. Keep the foot and bandage dry until then.
- 2. Using a clean basin, dilute one tablespoon of Epsom Salt in warm water. The water does not have to be hot.
- 3. Soak the affected foot for about 15 minutes. After soaking, pat the feet dry with a clean towel or some gauze.
- 4. Re-bandage the toe/toes with antibiotic cream and light bandage.
- 5. If you have had a partial or complete permanent toenail removal, it is very important to leave the toe open to air for a portion of the day. This is generally done in the evening. It is also very important to keep the toe covered with a Band-Aid whenever you are wearing shoes as this will help prevent infection.
- 6. Following a permanent or partial permanent toenail removal, you are to continue soaking the foot until all drainage has stopped. This may be anywhere from one to two weeks. Soak twice a day for the first week, then once daily during the second week.
- 7. Monitor for infection. Signs of infection include redness, swelling, drainage.
- \*Please be advised, if you have had a permanent or partial permanent toenail removal, it is not unusual to have some increased pain and redness after the procedure. It is also normal to have clear drainage and a tinge of blood on the Band-Aid for two to three weeks after the procedure. **THIS IS NORMAL.**