

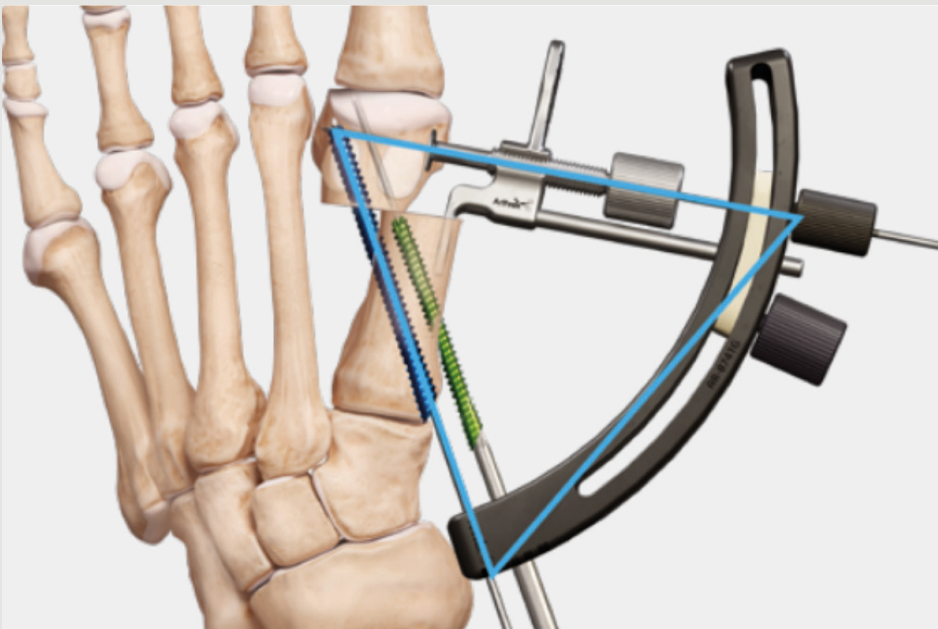
MINIMALLY INVASIVE BUNIONECTOMY SYSTEM

Problem – Challenge

Our feet often change as we get older and a bump, known as bunion (medical term: *Hallux valgus*) may start appearing on the joint when the big toe starts leaning in towards the other toes. It is estimated that about 1 out of 3 people over the age 65 have a bunion to some degree, which are far more common in women than in men. Bunions can vary a lot in severity and can cause severe problems with chronic pain. Surgery is then the only way to treat the cause of the symptoms by correcting the misalignment. It consists of cutting the toe bone to straighten the affected joint with pins or screws. The difficulty of this surgery is to place the screw correctly to obtain an optimal result.

Solution

In collaboration with the company Arthrex Inc., Dr. Dubois-Ferrière at HUG invented a new minimally invasive Bunionectomy System. This new surgical instrument has been conceived to allow precise and reproducible targeting of the placement of the screw. A patent for this invention was filed by Arthrex Inc. and an agreement was signed between HUG and Arthrex Inc. to ensure the commercialization of this medical device, starting in 2022.



Minimally Invasive Bunionectomy System commercialized by Arthrex Inc