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Spine Surgery • Orthopedic Surgery • Joint Replacement Surgery • Orthopedic Trauma

You will be scheduled for Fracture Open Reduction Internal Fixation (ORIF)

What is an ORIF? In this surgery, an incision will be made in the skin and soft tissues, and the fracture will be directly visualized. The bones will be realigned, and hardware is then placed to stabilize the bone in an acceptable position. This hardware can include plates, screws, pins, K-wires, cables and rods. The incision is then sutured closed and the extremity is splinted.

What are the risks? Risks of this surgery include bleeding, infection, wound healing problems, neurovascular injury, delayed union, nonunion, malunion, joint pain, stiffness or dysfunction, hardware pain, failure of procedure, and need for additional surgery. Lower extremity surgery also has the risk of DVT/PE (blood clots).

What may happen if I do not proceed with this surgery? Risks of non-operative treatment include malunion, delayed union, nonunion, chronic joint pain or dysfunction, deformity, post-traumatic osteoarthritis, and decrease or loss of function.

Please ask your surgeon if you have any questions regarding the above information.