



The Leg Bones Clinic

Dr Hugh Won
MBBS, FRACS (Orth)
Orthopaedic Surgeon

ABN 40850511200

Provider no. 239147LX

Tel: 07 55980757

1300 65 64 88

Fax: 07 56410955

www.legbones.com.au

Suite 4E, John Flynn Medical Centre

42 Inland Drive, Tugun, QLD 4224

Mail: PO Box 811, Tugun, QLD 4224

Why is there a gap charge?

Dr Won's fees are set according to the Australian Medical Association guidelines; they are determined by the medical & surgical complexity, duration, technical skills required and the level of post-operative involvement.

The rebate that you receive from Medicare and your health fund represents financial assistance that the government and your health fund will provide to cover part of your operation costs. It is not designed to represent the surgeon's fee, nor does it reflect the complexity of your operation.

In some cases the rebate alone is sufficient to cover the surgeon's fee in our practice. In these cases, such as for hip or knee replacements, we are able to offer a No-Gap arrangement and invoice directly to your health fund without additional charge to you. In other circumstances, such as for most foot & ankle operations, there is often a significant gap between the surgeon's fee and the rebate available, therefore you may incur an out-of-pocket expense for your operation.

Surgery on smaller joints such as in the foot and ankle can be very complex, requiring greater technical accuracy than many others. The follow-up care can also be more intensive, involving frequent reviews and dressing changes. Therefore, the surgeon's fee for a complex foot & ankle operation is often similar to a major hip or knee operation. However, smaller bones tend to attract smaller rebates, therefore patients undergoing foot & ankle operations will often receive less rebates than those undergoing hip and knee operations. Similarly this also applies to trauma care such as fractures.

The amount of rebate given back to you is set by Medicare and your health fund; it is not determined by your surgeon. If you believe that the amount of rebate is inadequate, we invite you to discuss this with Medicare Australia and your health fund representatives.

It is important to remember also that your health fund is primarily designed to cover the cost of your hospitalisation, including operating theatre fees, nursing care, hospital stay, and any surgical implants or equipment that may be used during your operation, all of which can be very substantial.