

MIKE FOSTER
Hand Wrist and Elbow Surgeon
PIP Joint Replacements

Problem

- Pain and discomfort in the middle knuckle of the fingers.

Cause

- May be secondary to trauma or an arthritic, either osteo or inflammatory process.

Diagnosis

- X-rays confirm the diagnosis.
- CT scan to look at the joint surface and bone.

Treatment

- Surgical
 - General anaesthetic, block
 - - usually day surgery procedure.
 - - Debridement and bone cuts made to injured joint
 - - Insertion of either a silicone or metal and poly joint replacement.
 - - Soft tissue repair of the soft tissue envelope into a protective splint.

Potential Complications

- Infection, haematoma, stiffness.
- Fracturing of the prosthesis.
- Loosening of the prosthesis.

Post Op Care

- Back slab
- Start hand therapy at five days with a short arc motion type protocol to protect the extensor tendon repair.