

FOOT & ANKLE CENTER OF FRISCO

PODIATRIC MEDICINE AND SURGERY

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Cartiva

At the Foot & Ankle Center of Frisco we pride ourselves in making the state of the art treatments available to our patients. We are a fully accredited imaging facility with X-rays, MRI, and a 3D lower extremity CT scanner which help accurately diagnose arthritis and acute injuries. Today we'd like to share a revolutionary new concept for surgical repair of an arthritic great toe joint.

More than 2 million Americans suffer from debilitating arthritis in the great toe joints. These patients often have trouble with day to day activities such as kneeling down, exercising or wearing certain shoes. Arthritis in the great toe joint can feel like a stabbing sharp pain anytime the great toe bends when walking.

Until recently, the gold standard for surgical treatment of end stage arthritis was fusion of the great toe joint. Though pain is often resolved following this procedure, the patient has a toe joint that will not move. This immobility can be very difficult for some patients to accept.

Cartiva is a revolutionary new implant shaped like a gumdrop which has been utilized in Europe and Canada for nearly a decade and has finally made its way to the USA. Cartiva is a man-made synthetic material made of a soft plastic like substance, polyvinyl alcohol and saline. This substance is similar to contact lens material.

The Cartiva implant is inserted in the great toe joint in a way that creates joint space, alleviating the bone on bone grinding and allows for easy pain free gliding of the joint.

Unlike fusion surgery, patients with Cartiva implant are able to walk immediately after surgery allowing for a much easier post op recovery. Current studies show a 2 year success rate of 91% and a 74% improved range of motion following surgery. Unlike previous implant procedures, the Cartiva implant is a low profile implant requiring minimal bone removal which does not compromise the joint if additional surgery is ever needed.

Call the Foot & Ankle Center of Frisco today to make an appointment to discuss the Cartiva implant for great toe arthritis. If you are one of the 2 million Americans suffering from this painful condition, the Foot & Ankle Center of Frisco can help.