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THE EFFECT OF ELIMINATING LEG LENGTH DIFFERENCE ON PLANTAR FOOT PRESSURE DISTRIBUTION IN PATIENTS WEARING FOREFOOT OFFLOADING SHOE

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Highlights

Shoes with an elevated heel are used to off-load the foot after forefoot osteotomies
The height difference between the shoes results in a leg length discrepancy and an abnormal gait pattern

Sole elevation of a standard contralateral shoe results in increase in the plantar pressures at the lateral forefoot in the foot wearing the forefoot offloading Darco shoe

Abstract

Background and purpose: Elevated heel construction offloads the forefoot after surgery. However, side-to-side height difference alters limb kinetics, whereas leg-length equalizing-sole at nonoperated side may have beneficial effects on foot loading. The purpose was to characterize leg-length equalizing sole effect on bilateral plantar pressures when using heel-lift forefoot-offloading shoe.

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