

LEG RECONSTRUCTION

Plastic surgeons are often involved in lower limb trauma cases . These limb injuries may involve the soft tissues as well as bones. Injuries with exposed and broken bones are called open fractures. Without soft tissue cover , broken bones will not mend. Plastic surgeons are trained to reconstruct lost soft tissue and can make a significant difference to the outcome of these injuries.

In the past, many of these injuries ended in amputation, but now most can be salvaged.

Either skin or muscle is required to cover the bone. Sometimes the soft tissue cover comes from the local /adjacent area on the leg.

Occasionally, skin or muscle needs to be transplanted from another part of the body, such as a Latissimus dorsi muscle flap from the back. These flaps are transplanted by connecting the tiny blood vessels in the flap to the blood vessels in the injured limb using microsurgery.

