

About Hip Dislocation

This condition occurs when the ball at the head of the femur slips out of its place within the socket of the pelvic bone, (called the acetabulum), causing pain and immobility.

CAUSES

Hip dislocations occur when a sudden, forceful blow forces the femoral head out of the socket, most commonly during automobile accidents. Falls or other accidents that twist or pull the leg may also generate enough force to dislocate a hip.

SYMPTOMS

Symptoms of a hip dislocation can include severe pain in the hip, especially when moving, deformity around the hip joint, one leg appearing shorter than the other, the injured leg rotated out of its normal alignment, inability to move the leg, and numbness along the back of the legs or into the feet caused by nerve compression.

TREATMENT

If the dislocation does not involve other injuries, the physician may attempt a closed reduction where the leg is manipulated so that the femoral head is placed back into the hip socket. Severe cases may require surgery.



