



The effect of foot posture on balance and gait



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Introduction



- The foot is the interface between body and ground, influencing **balance** and **movement**,
- The condition of the soles plays a critical role in the quality of daily activities such as **standing, walking, and running**,
- Any change in the structure of the sole, including **increasing or decreasing its arch**, is among the factors that expose the foot to overuse **injuries caused by physical activity**

Foot position



Supination
High arched print



Neutral
Normal arch



Overpronation
Flatfoot print

Neutral position

- No **deviation** in any plane,
- The heel bone lump **supports** the body weight
- **Both longitudinal borders** are **parallel** to each other.
- **Even distribution of weight:** heads I and V of the metatarsus; medial and lateral edges of the foot



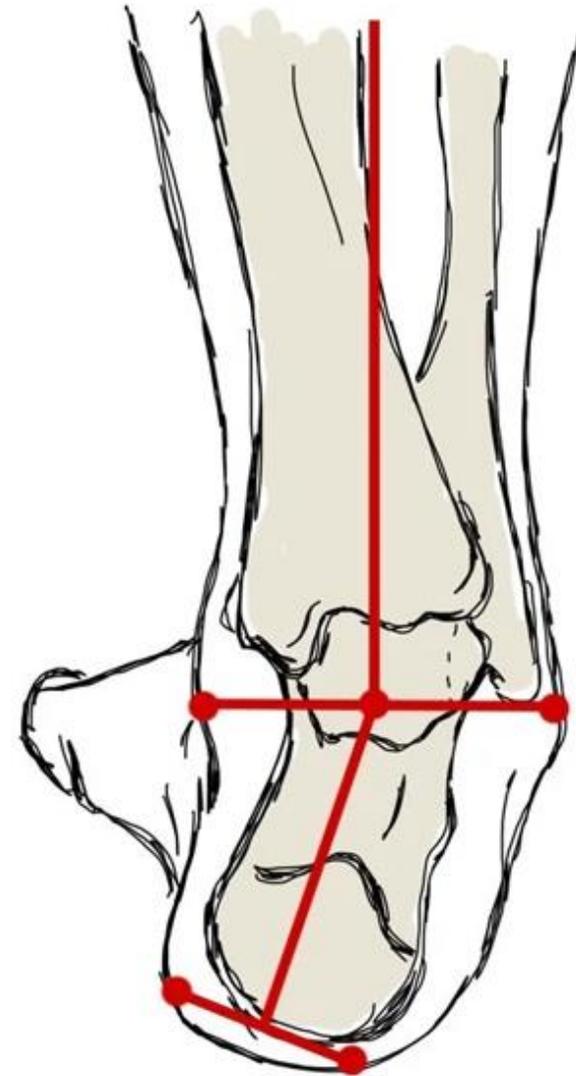
Supination movement

- A complex movement occurring during the gait cycle,
- It is a **natural** movement,
- It consists of **inversion**, **plantar flexion**, and **adduction**,
- **Provides the stability**,
- **In supination**, the heel bone always aligns in a **varus position**



Excessive supination - varus deformity of the foot

- The heel bone rests on the **outer edge**,
- The heel bends **slightly downward**, causing **slight adduction** of the forefoot and an **excessive lift** of the medial arch.
- The foot is in **inversion**.



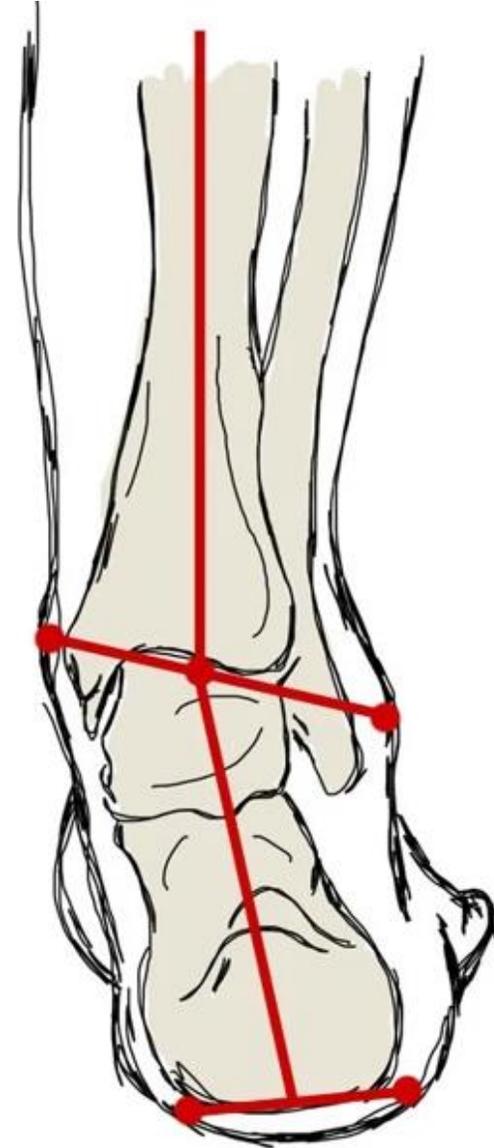
Pronation movement

- It is a **natural** part of walking,
- It consists of **eversion, dorsiflexion,** and **abduction,**
- The foot becomes **very flexible** and **has strong shock-absorbing** and **adaptive properties,**
- **In pronation,** the heel bone always aligns in a **valgus position**



Excessive pronation - foot valgus

- The heel bone rests on the **inner edge**,
- The heel bone bends **slightly upward**, causing **slight abduction** of the forefoot and **lowering of** the medial arch.
- The foot is in **eversion**.



The effect of the defect on balance

- **Shift of the center of gravity,**
- **Smaller support surface,**
- **Greater muscle work and postural control,**
- **Proprioception disorders**



The effect of the defect on gait

- **Reduced stability,**
- **Impaired coordination and dynamic balance,**
- **Disturbed foot spacing and step symmetry,**
- **Overload in the knees, hips, and spine due to compensations**



Procedure and correction

- **Proprioceptive, stretching, strengthening, and balance exercises**
- **Orthopedic insoles,**
- **Manual physiotherapy,**
- **Corrective footwear**



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Glossary

- Arch- łuk
- Deviation- odchylenie
- Plane- płaszczyzna
- Heel bone- kość piętowa
- Lump- guz
- Inversion- inwersja
- Plantar flexion- zgięcie podszwowe
- Adduction- przywodzenie

- Eversion- ewersja
- Dorsiflexion- zgięcie grzbietowe
- Abduction- odwodzenie
- Outer/inner edge- zewnętrzna/wewnętrzna krawędź
- Medial/ lateral edge- przyśrodkowy/boczny brzeg
- Varus- szpotawość
- Valgus- koślawość
- Foot spacing- rozstawienie stóp
- Step symmetry- symetria kroku

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