Septic Arthritis- Coffin Joint

Method-Digit amputation

**Step 1 - Incision**

The interdigital skin is incised initially to the level of the PIP or the distal aspect of the proximal phalanx axially,with a 45-degree angle to the proximal digit abaxially using a scalpel blade.



* The incision is then extended over the dorsal aspect of the affected digit abaxially at an angle of approximately 30 ˚.
* The incision is then continued around the abaxial aspect of the digit, approximately 0.5cm above the coronary band and cutting down to the bone.

**Complete amputation of the digit**

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* The Gilgi wire or obstetrical wire is inserted into the interdigital incision and the digit is sawed at at an oblique angle (ideally 30˚).
* An assistant is used to hold the digit to provide more stability when the cut is performed
* The cut goes trough the distal portion of the phalanx and the interdigital fat and all remaining necrotic tissues are removed
* Digital vessels are ligatured with aborbable sutures and the wound is lavaged and dried.
* A semiocculsive layer is applied on the distal portion of the proximal phalanax and multiple layers of gauze are placed over it and it is then wrapped with adhesive bandage.