

- Calcaneus
- Cuboid
- Cuneiforms
- Metatarsals (less common)

Among these, the talus is most frequently affected owing to its precarious vascular supply.

Etiology and Risk Factors

Trauma

Trauma is a leading cause of AVN in the foot and ankle, especially fractures involving the talus or other weight-bearing bones. Disruption of blood vessels during fracture can lead to ischemia.

Non-Traumatic Causes

Beyond trauma, several non-traumatic factors contribute to AVN development:

- Corticosteroid use: Prolonged high-dose therapy affects blood vessel integrity.
- Alcoholism: Excessive alcohol consumption impairs blood flow and bone metabolism.
- Sickle cell disease: Abnormal blood cells obstruct microvasculature.
- Decompression sickness: Seen in divers, causes embolic occlusion.
- Idiopathic causes: In some cases, no clear reason is identified.

Other Contributing Factors

Additional factors include:

- Radiation therapy
- Certain medications
- Systemic diseases like lupus or rheumatoid arthritis

Clinical Presentation

Symptoms

Patients with AVN of the foot and ankle typically present with:

