

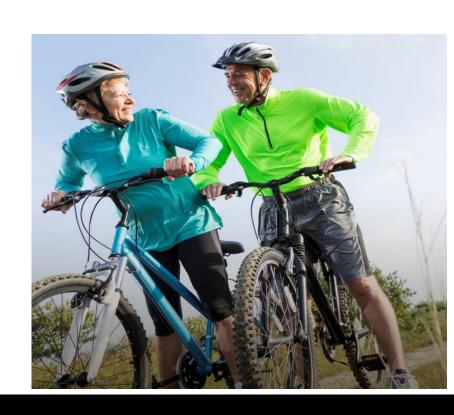
Total Joint Replacement Community Seminar

Journey to Joint Replacement

Dallas A. Vanorny, MD, PhD October 16, 2025

Journey to Joint Replacement

- Clinical presentation
- Epidemiology/Pathophysiology
- Conditions
- First steps
- Options/Considerations
- What to expect/How to decide
- Surgery
- Recovery
- Life after joint replacement







Presentation and initial treatment

Clinical Presentation

Hip

- -Pain, usually in the front rather than the side
- -Stiffness/Loss of motion
- Sensation of clicking/catching
- Difficulty with various activities



Knee

- -Pain, usually along the joint line or under the knee-cap
- -Stiffness, especially in the morning or after prolonged sitting
- Sensation of clicking/popping/grinding
- Swelling of the knee
- Difficulty with various activities



Clinical Presentation

- Symptoms are progressive with occasional flare-ups
- Higher impact activities will often be affected first

 Over the counter medications and activity modifications may help initially



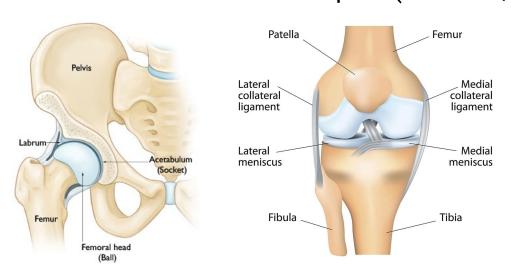
Epidemiology

- One in four U.S. adults (54.4 million people) report a diagnosis of arthritis
- Prevalence of arthritis is projected to increase to 78.4 million U.S. adults by 2040
- Among people with arthritis, about 44% report arthritisattributable activity limitations
- Arthritis is the leading cause of disability in the U.S.
- More common in women, elderly, obese, and inactive individuals
- Over \$300 billion attributed to arthritis each year equaling 1 percent of U.S. GDP



Basic anatomy and pathophysiology

- Arthritis is the loss of articular cartilage
- Cartilage covers joint surfaces and allows them move with minimal friction and generally without pain
- Arthritis is generally a slow process (months to years)
- Articular cartilage doesn't regenerate
- Other structures can cause pain (muscles, tendons, ligaments, etc.)







Conditions causing arthritis

Hip

- Osteoarthritis (wear and tear)
- Inflammatory arthritis (rheumatoid)
- -Traumatic arthritis
- Labral injuries
- Hip dysplasia
- Avascular necrosis

Knee

- Osteoarthritis (wear and tear)
- Inflammatory arthritis (rheumatoid)
- -Traumatic arthritis
- ACL and meniscal injuries



First steps

- Document symptoms (location, frequency, etc.) and activities associated with symptoms
- Attempt activity modifications and over-the-counter antiinflammatory medications
- Discuss symptoms with primary care provider
- Obtain x-rays for severe or persistent symptoms



Next steps

- Discuss with primary care physician
 - Most can begin conservative measures
- If conservative measures are not effective, consider referral to:
 - Physical therapy
 - -Primary care sports medicine
 - -PMR physician
 - Orthopedic surgeon
- In general, you do not need to see a surgeon until you are ready to discuss surgery



Conservative treatments

- Activity modifications/Lifestyle changes
- Acetaminophen (e.g., Tylenol)
- NSAIDs (e.g., ibuprofen, naproxen, Celebrex)
- Narcotics (e.g., tramadol, hydrocodone, oxycodone)
- Physical Therapy/Home exercises
- Ice or heat therapy
- Topical creams or gels
- Brace (e.g., sleeve, hinged, or unloader)
- Assistive device (e.g., cane, walker, crutches, wheelchair)
- Weight loss
- Cortisone (e.g., steroid) injections
- Euflexxa/Synvisc (e.g., lubricant) injections





Hip and knee replacement surgery

When are you "indicated" for surgery?

- Must meet four criteria
 - Have radiographic evidence of end-stage arthritis
 - Have significant limitations affecting function/quality of life
 - Maximized conservative treatments without relief
 - Be healthy enough for surgery
- Surgery is the only way to "change" the bearing surface of the joint
- You never "need" a hip or knee replacement
- "You'll know when you are ready"
- There may be some benefit to "suffering" a bit before surgery



Selecting a surgeon

- Ask for a referral to fellowship-trained joint surgeon
- Beware if...
 - You are told that you have "the worse hip/knee they have ever seen"
 - Your surgeon doesn't perform an exam, or doesn't show or explain your x-rays to you
- Ask friends/family members who have had a hip or knee replacement about their experiences

UIHC Hip and Knee Reconstruction Providers



Jacob M. Elkins, MD, PhD

 Orthopedics and Rehabilitation

4.73 out of 5 (1,262 ratings)

MD: University of Iowa **PhD:** University of Iowa

Residency: University of Iowa

Fellowship: Colorado Joint Replacement



Nicolas Noiseux, MD, MS, FRCSC

 Orthopedics and Rehabilitation

4.62 out of 5 (2,004 ratings)

MD: McGill

Residency: McGill Fellowship: Mayo



Dallas A. Vanorny, MD, PhD

 Orthopedics and Rehabilitation

4.78 out of 5 (311 ratings)

MD: University of Illinois

PhD: Northwestern University

Residency: Baylor College of Medicine **Fellowship:** University of Pittsburgh

INWA

Hip replacement – Surgical Considerations

- Approach
 - Direct anterior (on-table vs off-table)
 - Anterior based muscle sparing (supine vs lateral position)
 - Lateral
 - Posterior/Posterolateral
- Stem types
 - Press-fit vs cemented
 - Triple taper vs wedge vs ream/broach
- Articulation
 - Standard
 - Dual-mobility
 - Constrained
- Bearing type
 - Ceramic, metal, polyethylene



Direct Anterior



Trident PSL HA Acetabular Shell X3 Polyethylene Insert

Femoral Head Ceramic Femoral Head BIOLOX delta[†] Anatomic Ceramic Femoral Head with Universal Adapter Sleeve

Trident Alumina Ceramic Insert

† For use with Polyethylene Inserts only

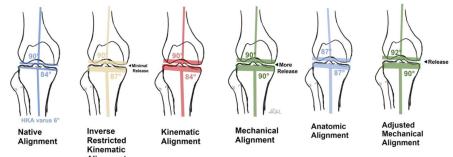
Femoral Head

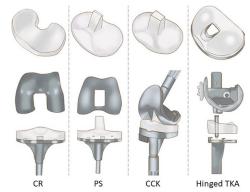


Knee replacement – Surgical Considerations

- Total knee replacement
 - Press-fit vs cemented
- Partial knee replacement
- Patella resurfacing
- Alignment philosophies
 - Mechanical alignment
 - Gap Balancing
 - Measured resection
 - -Kinematic alignment
 - Function alignment (robotics)
- Implant types
 - Cruciate retaining and posterior stabilized









Other Considerations

- General vs Spinal anesthesia (and regional blocks)
 - -Spinal anesthesia is associated with fewer complications
 - No breathing tube; less narcotics during the procedure
 - Regional blocks can decrease the need for narcotics
- Same day discharge vs outpatient surgery
 - Patients who are able to discharge home on the day of surgery typically have better outcomes that those that stay overnight or longer
- Glue, sutures, staples for wound closure
- Hospital's outcomes/reputation, specialized care



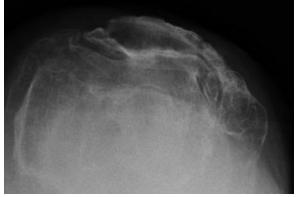


Robotic total knee replacement

Case #1

- 55-year-old female with left knee pain
- Fairly active, but significantly limited by pain
- Attempted conservative treatments, no longer helping





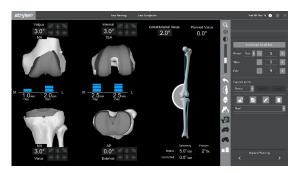
Robotic total knee workflow



3D CT-based preoperative plan



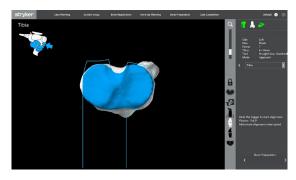
Bone registration



Tensioning



Assessment and planning



Bone cuts made with haptic technology

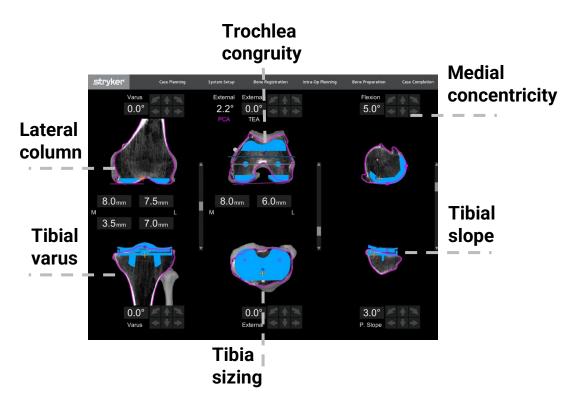


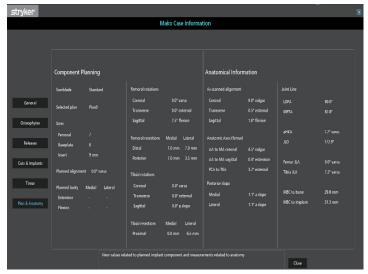
Trialing



Functional alignment planning

 Functional alignment planning enables the surgeon to prioritize the attributes of the knee that have the most impact on function, before and after assessing the soft tissue laxities.

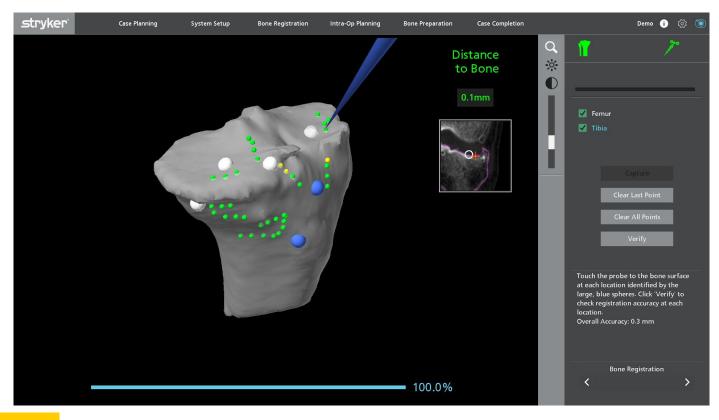






Bone registration

 The surgeon completes bone registration on the femur and tibia by collecting points on the surface of the patient's bones. This step confirms that the CT-based model is aligned to the patient's anatomy within 0.5mm.

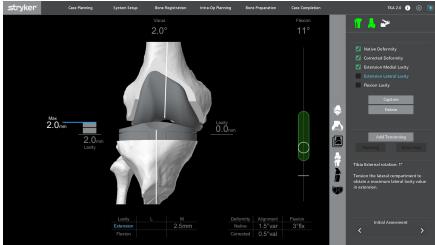




Initial assessment

• The surgeon can capture the native deformity and the corrected deformity to assess the limb and then capture the extension and flexion laxity data.







Tensioning

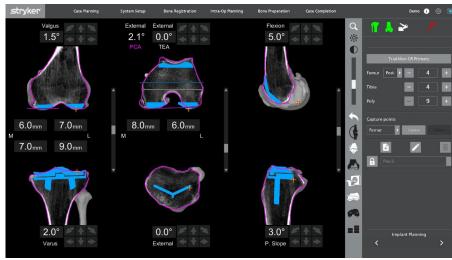
urgeon tensions the knee on the medial and lateral sides in both extenexion to determine the tension of the medial and lateral stabilizing structure.	



Intraoperative planning

- The laxity information is transferred to the implant planning page to allow the surgeon to balance the knee.
- The balancing page provides all the necessary information on one page, including the ability to balance the knee in CT view.
- The surgeon can balance the knee in conjunction with the functional planning guidelines to help achieve functional knee positioning.

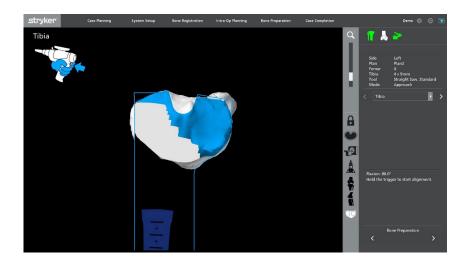


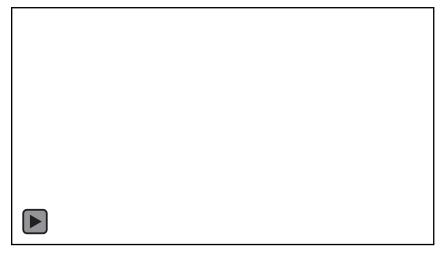




Bone cuts and trialing

- Haptic boundaries constrains the saw within a virtual boundary that is established by the surgeon's patient-specific plan
- Is no longer limited by cutting blocks and manual techniques
- Allows the surgeon to accurately execute the final plan while protecting soft tissues when compared to manual cutting blocks



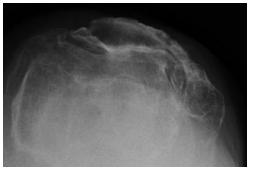




Outcome

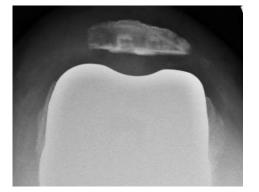
















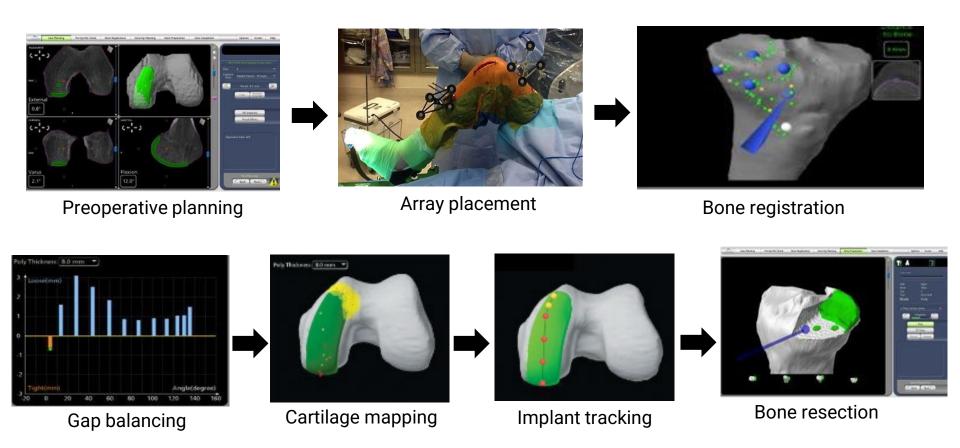
Robotic partial knee replacement

Case #2

- 66-year-old male with left knee pain
- Very active, significantly limited by pain
- Attempted conservative treatments, no longer helping



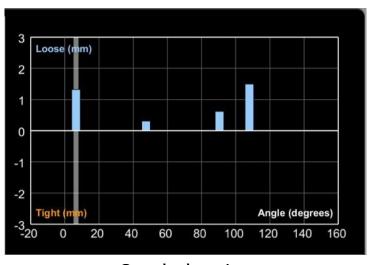
Robotic partial knee workflow



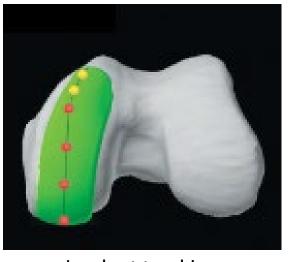


Intraoperative planning

 After registration and assessing the patient's ligament tension, gap analysis, limb alignment and cartilage transition zones, surgeon-controlled intraoperative adjustments can be made to the preoperative plan.







Gap balancing

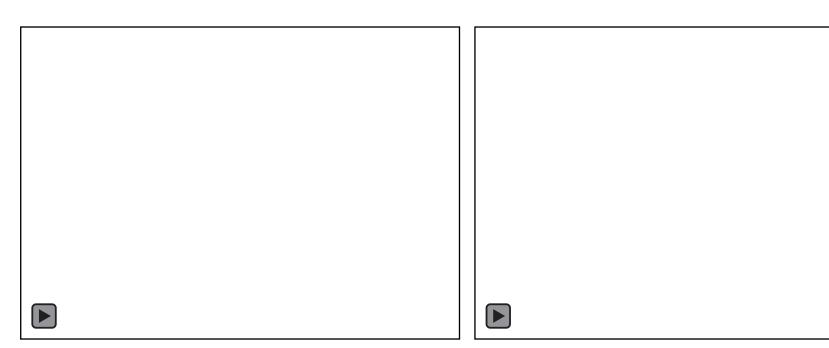
Cartilage mapping

Implant tracking



Bone cuts made using burr and/or saw

• The Mako Partial Knee application creates a haptic boundary which assists the surgeon in executing both the tibial and femoral bone resections to plan.



Burr-only workflow
Burr used for all cuts

Planar workflow

Saw used for posterior femur and tibial plateau Burr used for remainder of cuts and tibial wall



Outcomes













Total hip replacement through a direct anterior approach

Case #3

- 78-year-old female with right hip pain
- Active, significantly limited by pain
- Attempted conservative treatments, no longer helping



Outcome







Complex total hip replacement through a direct anterior approach

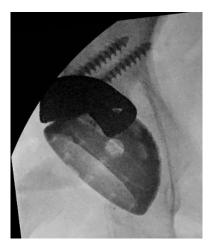
Case #4

- 76-year-old male with right hip pain
- Also has 5 cm leg length discrepancy
- Active, significantly limited by pain
- Attempted conservative treatments, no longer helping



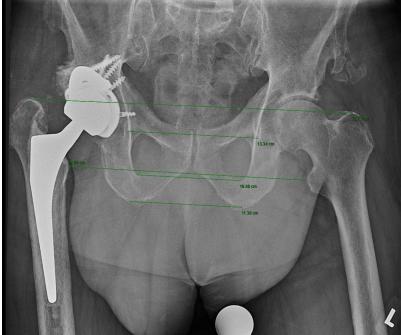
Outcome















Robotic total hip replacement through a direct anterior approach

Case #5

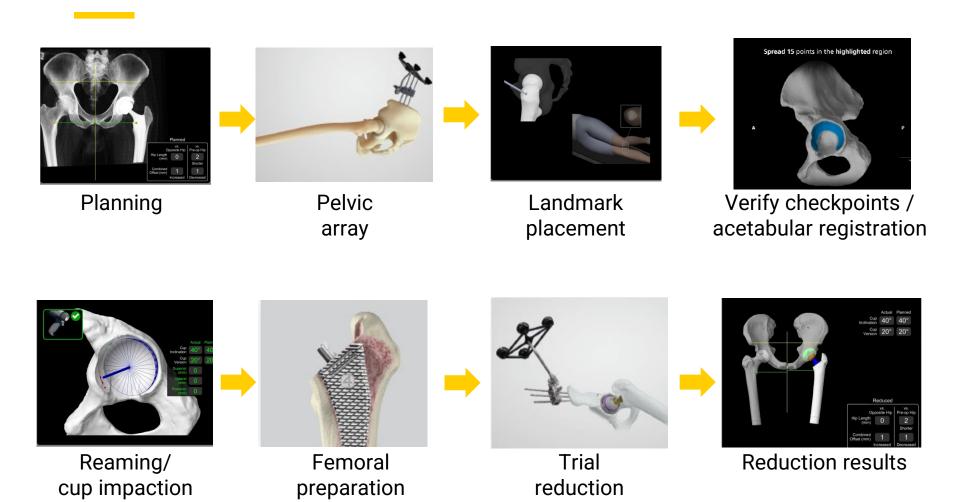
- 45-year-old male with chronic left hip pain
- History of lymphoma and chronic steroid use resulting in avascular necrosis
- Very active, but significantly limited by pain
- Attempted conservative treatments, no longer providing pain relief





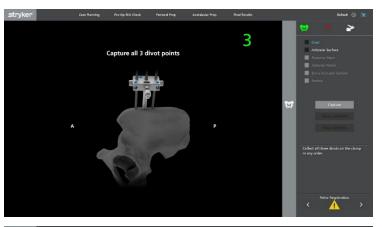


Robotic THA workflow

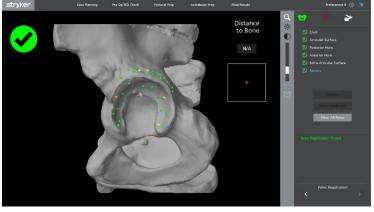


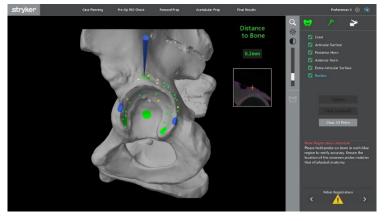


Pelvic crest and landmark registration







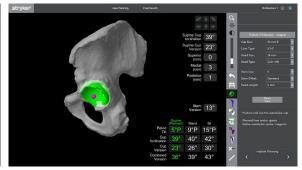




Cup and femoral implant planning, in situ impingement analysis, reaming, and impaction

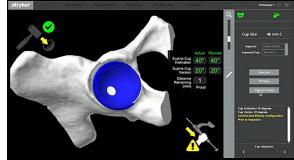












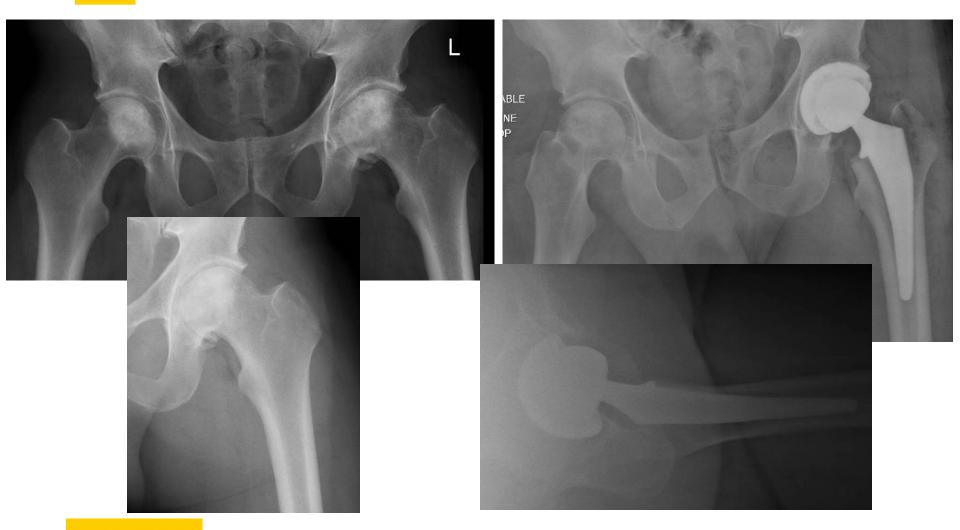


Robotic arm reaming





Outcomes







Recovery

General workflow

- Transfer from OR to recovery area
 - Assess heart rate, blood pressure, pain, and recovery after anesthesia
 - -Xrays will typically be obtained at this time
 - -Take small sips of water
- Work with physical therapy or transfer to floor
 - Mobilization with a walker or crutches
 - Assess ability to sit down and get up from seated position
 - Attempt going up and down several stairs
 - Physical therapy will make determination if patient is able to go home safely or if they need additional assistance



Discharge instructions/prescriptions

- Dressing instructions
- Showering instruction
- Ice machine instructions (knees)
- Activity restrictions (mostly for posterior THAs)
- Pain medications
 - -Tylenol, NSAIDs, muscle relaxer, narcotics
- DVT/PE prophylaxis
 - -Typically aspiring, occasionally Eliquis, Xarelto, or Warfarin
- Physical therapy (knees)
- Warning signs (red, hot, swollen, drainage, and fever)



Recovery at home

- Homebound by not bed-bound
- Careful to avoid falls
- Recommend to have someone available 24/7 for the first week after surgery
- Likely needing significant assistance
- Staying ahead of pain
- Beginning home exercise program
- Assessing for any warning signs
 - Redness, drainage, fevers





https://hipkneeinfo.org/general/infection-and-your-joint-replacement/



Typical milestones

- Transition from walker to cane (2 days to 2 weeks)
- Starting physical therapy (1 week)
- Transition from cane to nothing (2- 4 weeks)
- First follow-up appointment (3 weeks)
- Driving around 3 weeks (left side) to 4 weeks (right side)
- Able to perform most low energy activities (4-8 weeks)
- Second follow-up appointment/Return to work (6 weeks)
- Running, jumping, sports (12 weeks)
- Last regular follow-up appointment (1-2 years)





Life after joint replacement

Separating facts from myths



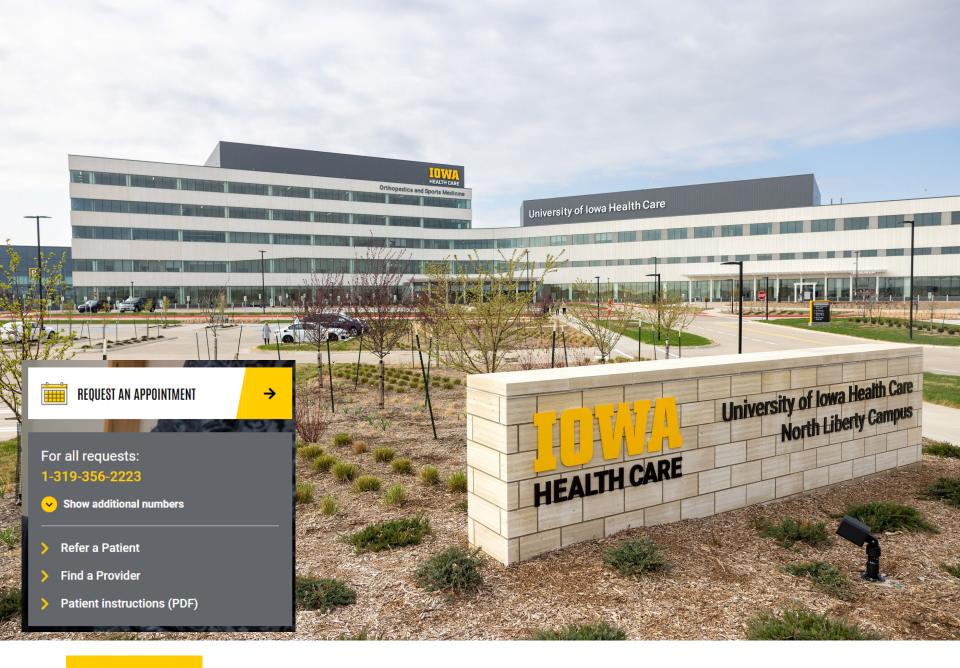
- There are virtually no restrictions after a total hip replacement (posterior hip precautions for 6 weeks)
- You can run/jog after a knee replacement
- It might be more challenging to perform aggressive cutting or lateral movements after a knee replacement
- TKAs have 90-95% survival at 20 years (70-80% for UKAs)
- Three most common reasons for failure/revision (hips and knees)
 - Instability, loosening, infection
- You often won't set off metal detectors at an airport (and you don't need a card stating that you had a replacement)
- Can consider taking antibiotics for routine dental procedures and colonoscopies (very little data supporting this)
- You may continue to have some pain after a hip or knee replacement



Summary

- Osteoarthritis is the loss of articular cartilage
- Conservative treatments should be attempted first
- When conservative treatments are no longer working, request referral to a fellowship trained joint surgeon
- Select a surgeon and facility that you can trust
- Have a care companion join you on your joint replacement journey
- Hip and knee replacements are among the most successful surgeries in all of medicine
- No significant limitations after recovery





IOWA