

April

2014 Newsletter



Guilford Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine Center
A Division of Southeastern Orthopaedic Specialists, P.A.
"We work to keep you playing"

Vincent E. Paul, MD
Peter G. Dalldorf, MD
Dominic W. McKinley, MD
Justin W. Chandler, MD
Frank J. Rowan, MD
John L. Graves, MD
Hao Wang, MD
Mark Dumonski, MD
www.guilfordortho.com



Guilford Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine Center would like to wish you a Happy Easter! Our office will be closed Saturday April 5th, 2014 and Friday April 18, 2014. We will re-open at regular business hours on Monday April 7, 2014 & Saturday April 19, 2014.

Dr. Dalldorf discusses Anterior Hip Replacement



Hip arthritis is a common cause of leg, groin, buttock and often low back pain. It can become debilitating and when conservative measures of weight loss, anti-inflammatories, and injections fail, total hip replacement can be a good surgical treatment. This operation has been available for over 50 years and is one of the more gratifying surgeries we can offer patients normally eliminating pain and reliably improving function. Over the last few years this already good operation has gotten even better. With the development of a new surgical table the procedure can be done through the front of the joint via what is called the "anterior approach."

The advantages of this anterior hip replacement are many. It is done between muscles rather than through them causing less tissue damage and pain. This seems to speed up recovery and allow for a more normal gait as well. It also allows for repair of the joint capsule making the hip more stable. One drawback of hip replacement surgery has always been the disarming complication of instability where the replaced hip comes out of place. The published rate of this happening is around 5% and though that sounds uncommon, when you are the patient it happens to (or even the surgeon) those numbers don't matter. The dislocation rate using the anterior approach is 1/20th of that, less than 1%. Another advantage of this anterior hip replacement technique is that intraoperative x-rays are easy and this leads to more accurate placement of the parts and equalization of leg lengths.

I switched to this technique about 8 months ago for several reasons. I did have a couple of patients who suffered dislocations of hips I replaced and decided if there was a technique that could minimize that complication I wanted to learn it. I also had a man in his 80's ask if there were a quicker way that he could recover from hip replacement surgery. He pointed out that at 80 a few months to recover from something is a really big deal; a few weeks not so bad. Anyhow, I spent about 4 months studying and watching other doctors do the surgery in several hospitals. I have done about 30 at this point and do feel that the anterior hip replacement leads to a quicker recovery with fewer complications. It is definitely the way to go and I would guess that more and more hips will be replaced in this fashion in the future.

Guilford Orthopaedics strives to ensure the best experience and availability to ALL our patients!



We are open Saturdays from 9am until 1pm.

Be sure to call 336-275-3325 to schedule your appointment.

If after hours please visit our Urgent Care located at 1130 N. Church Street Suite 101 Greensboro, NC 27401 or call 336-235-BONE(2663) they are open M-F 5:30pm until 9pm and Sat./Sun. 10am until 2pm.