



NCH Orthopedic Program a National Leader in Quality Care For Total Hip and Knee Replacement

So, you've been told you should consider knee or hip replacement surgery? You're not alone. In the United States, more than 600,000 knee replacement surgeries and more than 300,000 hip replacement surgeries are performed each year. With an aging population working longer and rising rates of obesity, those numbers are expected to explode in the next two decades.

If you or a loved one is considering surgical options to improve mobility and quality of life, selecting the right facility to perform the procedure is critical. You can't do better than to choose an accredited hospital, such as NCH, that boasts two dedicated orthopedic units carrying the Joint Commission Gold Seal of Approval – a certification that ensures excellence across the entire patient care experience. The non-profit, independent Joint Commission measures a health care organization's commitment to meeting stringent quality performance standards and is recognized throughout the United States as the premier symbol of quality in joint-related health care. NCH Orthopedic Program is currently working on recertification for another two years.

"This certification demonstrates to the community that we have a higher standard of care for patients and are committed to providing exceptional care and improving patient outcomes," said Suzanne Graziano, MSN, RN, ONC, NE-BC, CNAT, Director of NCH Orthopedic Services. "We have an excellent track record in regard to quality, compared to national standards," she added.

"The NCH Orthopedics Program has a dedicated interdisciplinary team of healthcare professionals who collaborate and provide outstanding care to our patients,"

said Erin Raney, BSN, RN, CNML, Nurse Manager of NCH Orthopedic Services.

In seeking Joint Commission Gold Seal of Approval certification, the staff aimed for excellence in reducing surgical site infections, minimizing patient falls, improving patient satisfaction (through patients' ratings) and increasing pre-operative patient education attendance.

As a result of the certification process, surgical care was improved, the length of stay fell below the national average, the incidence of potential post-operative complications (such as infections, falls, deep vein thrombosis, pulmonary embolism, respiratory issues, increased swelling in the surgical area) fell below the national average, and the team attained the highest scores for patient satisfaction for pain management and for overall surgical experience and post-operative recovery.

Several hours after joint replacement surgery, patients

are evaluated and assessed by physical therapists, and individualized rehabilitation sessions are provided.

The facility's newest program, "Let's Get Moving," starts rehabilitation on the day after surgery with the intention of getting patients moving to reduce the risk of post-operative complications. "The program also helps patients to attain independence and gets them back to home within two to three days after surgery," explained Raney.

A "Mobility Planner" provided at the patient's bedside allows them to track distance walked from day of surgery, note exercises completed, whether they were able to sit in a chair for meals and distance walked with a friend or nursing staff.

"We have dedicated orthopedic units and state-of-the-art private rooms," said Graziano, adding that NCH is a community-based, patient-oriented hospital where the patient comes first.

Reasons to choose NCH Orthopedic Unit for your total knee or total hip replacement

- Joint Commission Gold Seal of Approval certification.
- Demonstrated commitment to quality and patient satisfaction.
- Two hour presurgery class for patients and family.
- Proactive postsurgery pain management program.
- Interdisciplinary, collaborative team approach from presurgery to postsurgery care.
- Dedicated orthopedic units and dedicated professional team.
- State-of-the-art private rooms.
- "Let's get Moving" postsurgery mobilization program.
- Postsurgery physical therapy evaluation.
- Individualized rehabilitation sessions.



For more information about NCH Orthopedic Services, contact Suzanne Graziano at (239) 624-3916. To learn more about the Joint Commission visit www.jointcommission.org/achievethegoldseal.aspx