

Leading the Region in Joint Replacement



The Joint Replacement Program at Cabell Huntington Hospital is the best in the region for joint replacement surgery.

The decision to have joint replacement surgery is a significant one. A hip or knee replacement can relieve pain, increase mobility and make a huge difference in quality of life — but with seemingly limitless options, it can be difficult to decide where to go and whom to trust. At the Cabell Huntington Hospital Joint Replacement Program, led by Ali Oliashirazi, MD, the decision is made much easier. When patients choose Cabell Huntington Hospital for joint replacement surgery, they are simply choosing the best.

Nationally Ranked & Recognized

For the ninth year in a row, Cabell Huntington Hospital has been named by Healthgrades one of America's 100 Best Hospitals for Joint Replacement — the only hospital in West Virginia that can make this claim. Cabell Huntington is also West Virginia's only hospital to receive a five-star rating for total knee replacement quality, an achievement maintained for nine years in a row.

This recognition from one of the nation's leading independent hospital ratings services places Cabell Huntington Hospital among the top 2 percent of all joint replacement programs in the nation. It also establishes Cabell Huntington as the best hospital in West Virginia and the Tri-State for joint replacement. Dr. Oliashirazi said the news is especially meaningful to those who are still weighing their options for joint replacement surgery.

"With all the advertising out there, it can be difficult to know which surgeons are truly the best," said Dr. Oliashirazi,

professor and chair of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. "Healthgrades creates transparency. It provides objective data on patient outcomes and quality of care, guiding patients to the hospitals they can trust."

Other recent awards include recognition from ProPublica, a nonprofit news organization and developer of the "Surgeon Scorecard," the nation's first online database comprising doctors' complication rates. Dr. Oliashirazi is ranked the No. 2 surgeon in the U.S. for total knee replacement quality, with the lowest complication rate of any surgeon in the region.

Increased Specialization ... Improved Outcomes

At the Cabell Huntington Hospital Joint Replacement Program, increased specialization means even better care. With three specialized centers — the Knee Replacement Center of Excellence, the Hip Replacement Center of Excellence and the Revision Center of Excellence — each member of the joint replacement team focuses on one area of joint replacement surgery, improving patient care and significantly reducing wait times for surgeries and appointments.

"Research shows that surgeons who perform a higher volume of the same type of surgery have better outcomes," said Jonathan Salava, MD, fellowship-trained orthopaedic surgeon and chief of the Hip Replacement Center of Excellence. "When we focus our practice on one area, it allows us to hone and perfect our skills — and in the end, it is our patients who benefit. When we can perform a procedure with skill and

(Opposite) Dr. Oliashirazi discusses joint replacement options with a patient.





Dr. Oliashirazi and Dr. Cheung with the MAKO.

accuracy, resulting in excellent patient outcomes, we are able to make a major difference in our patients' lives."

At the Hip Replacement Center of Excellence, Dr. Salava specializes in the anterior approach to hip replacement surgery, an innovative technique in which the surgeon enters through the front of the leg rather than the back. This allows the joint to be accessed without having to cut and reattach muscles, resulting in less tissue damage.

"Instead of going through muscles, we actually go between muscle groups," Dr. Salava said. "The anterior approach is the gold standard of hip replacement surgery and causes less muscle damage than other techniques. Patients experience less pain after surgery, shorter hospital stays and quicker recoveries."

Dr. Salava is also chief of the Revision Center of Excellence, where he sees existing joint replacement patients who require

additional surgery to correct problems from previous procedures or to replace aging components.

"Revision surgery may be needed for various reasons," he said. "With more and more patients choosing joint replacement surgery and continuing to have active, healthy lives, components can occasionally come loose. We also see patients who experienced problems during or after their first joint replacement surgery, requiring a correction."

Unparalleled Precision

The Knee Replacement Center of Excellence, led by Dr. Oliashirazi, includes Felix Cheung, MD, the only orthopaedic surgeon in the Tri-State specializing in partial knee replacement with the MAKOplasty® robotic surgical system. Using advanced imaging and robotic technology, Dr. Cheung performs partial knee replacement surgery with unparalleled precision. The minimally invasive procedure,

“Our patients’ priorities are our priorities.”

—Dr. Oliashirazi

ideal for patients with osteoarthritis in just one part of the knee, provides more natural knee motion following surgery, a quicker recovery and a smoother return to daily life.

“A partial knee replacement preserves all four of the ligaments of the knee, including the ACL,” Dr. Cheung said. “It is a partial resurfacing of the joint, so we only replace the damaged area of the bone. With 3D robotic mapping provided by the MAKOplasty® system, we are able to resurface the joint and position the implant with incredible accuracy and precision. At the end of the day, that is the key to providing a more natural-feeling knee.”

As a fellowship-trained orthopaedic oncologist and one of the nation’s leading MAKOplasty® surgeons, Dr. Cheung is on the forefront of the latest research and innovations, including developments that will soon make it possible for the MAKOplasty® system to be used in cancer treatment and total knee replacement surgeries.

“At Marshall Orthopaedics, we are always looking for what will provide the best care and treatment for our patients,” Dr. Cheung said. “Whatever research we’re doing, whether we’re studying new scaffold devices for rotator cuff repairs, reducing the risk of infection in total joint replacement surgeries or looking at novel materials to help treat bone cancers, our goal is the same: to bring the very best care to each of our patients.”

Total Hip & Knee Replacement ... Totally Outpatient

At Marshall Orthopaedics, being the best means constantly looking for ways to improve patient satisfaction and outcomes. Backed by research indicating that patients may recover from total joint replacement surgery more quickly the sooner they return home, Dr. Oliashirazi and Dr. Salava now offer outpatient hip and knee replacement surgery for patients who meet certain criteria. With the department’s award-winning surgical techniques, improved anesthesia and expedited rehabilitation protocols, select joint replacement patients have the opportunity to return home the same day of their surgery.

“To offer outpatient joint replacement surgery, you really have to perfect your pain management and nausea management techniques,” Dr. Oliashirazi said. “Our protocols allow patients to return home with little to no pain, to begin their recovery in the comfort of home, without the need for narcotic pain medications.”

With unparalleled skill and experience, a commitment to meeting the unique needs of each patient and a focus on leading-edge orthopaedic research, the Mary H. Hodges Joint Replacement Program at Cabell Huntington Hospital leads the region in joint replacement surgery.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 304.526.2607. 🌟



Dr. Salava specializes in the anterior approach to hip replacement surgery, which causes less muscle damage and less pain to patients.