

NCH Total Hip and Knee Replacement Program Granted The 2018 Gold Seal of Approval By The Joint Commission – The Choice Of Over 1600 Patients Annually

So, you've been told you should consider having a hip or knee replacement. You are not alone. In the United States, more than 700,000 knee replacement surgeries and more than 400,000 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.

Once you have decided to move forward with joint replacement surgery in the quest for an improved quality of life, choosing where to have your surgery is the next important decision. That decision is less daunting knowing that a local institution has been accredited by The Joint Commission, an independent organization that certifies nearly 21,000 healthcare facilities and programs throughout the United States. Joint Commission certification is awarded for meeting the highest standards in the delivery of quality patient care.

The NCH orthopedic program was recently re-certified by The Joint Commission as an Orthopedic Center of Excellence, offering the highest in quality care and patient satisfaction for total hip and total knee replacement.

As a prospective patient, you can have security and peace of mind knowing that since its initial Joint Commission accreditation in 2014, the NCH Orthopedic program has demonstrated exceptional quality and patient outcomes. The focus on comprehensive care of every patient sets the NCH program apart from area "quick-stop" surgical facilities.

"There are only 40 hospitals in Florida that have this prestigious certification, and we are



(Front, l to r): Katie Matthews, BSN, RN, Nurse Manager, Erin Salvi, RN, Jean Deceus, Social Worker, Maria Leon, RN, Mary Cooper, RN, Natalia Vasquez, OTR/L, Stephanie Segarra, PT, DPT, Judy Post, RN, Raquel C. Moya, Rehab Technician.

(Back, l to r): Richard Tillotson, PT, Jesus Martinez, Rehab Technician, Suzanne Camp, PT Manager, Marlane Jerome, RN, Leslie Shaw, PTA, Cerasela Casapu, RN, Jennifer Jimenez, Rehab Technician, Mary Lynn Banfield, PT, DPT, Eileen McMahon, PT, DPT, MSS, Jamie Bizub, PT, Jennifer Miller, BSN, RN, CMSRN, ONC.

the only one in southwest Florida," says Jennifer Miller, MSN, RN, CMSRN, ONC, NCH Total Joint Coordinator. "We take a comprehensive and holistic approach to the care of each patient. Every patients' recovery will be different depending upon their medical needs and internal and external motivations. We adapt to meet each patient's needs and expectations. Although hospital lengths of stay for total joint replacements have decreased over time, we are not a drive-through service. That is important for patients to understand."

With a holistic focus on the patient as an individual, a team consisting of physical and occupational therapists, clinical technicians, case managers, registered nurses, a medical doctor and a surgeon sees the patient daily.

"As part of the review and renewal of our disease-specific certification, The Joint Commission conducts an on-site review every two years," explains Miller. "With a collaborative effort, they

help us identify ways of improving our quality of care, consistency and safety."

Part of The Joint Commission's focus is on how patients and caregivers are educated and prepared for discharge, and how clinical outcomes and other performance measures are used to identify opportunities to improve care.

The commission also evaluates the commitment of an organization's leaders in improving the quality of care for patients.

"The benefit of Joint Commission certification to us and to the patient is that it helps establish a consistent approach to care, which works

to reduce the risk of errors and improve patient outcomes, allows for collaboration of teams across the continuum of care and demonstrates the commitment to higher standards of care."

Reasons to choose NCH Orthopedic Center of Excellence for your total knee or hip replacement

- Joint Commission Gold Seal of Approval certification
- Over 1600 total hip and knee replacements yearly performed by board certified orthopedic surgeons
- Demonstrated commitment to quality and patient satisfaction
- Two hour presurgery class for patients and family
- Offers comprehensive, holistic care to the patient
- Interdisciplinary, collaborative team approach from presurgery to post surgery care

For more information, contact Jennifer Miller, NCH Total Joint RN Coordinator at (239) 624-3998, email Jennifer.Miller3@nchmd.org