

AFTER THE SURGERY:

When the surgery is complete the patient will spend 1 - 2 days in the hospital and then be able to go home. After surgery patients are instructed to use the hip and resume normal activity when comfortable.

ANTERIOR HIP REPLACEMENT

at New London Hospital



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HOSPITAL**

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WHAT IS ANTERIOR HIP REPLACEMENT?

Anterior hip replacement is a minimally invasive option for patients suffering with arthritis, hip pain, stiffness and limited hip movement.

Anterior hip replacement differs from a traditional hip replacement because the surgeon is able to approach the hip from the front instead of from the side or back. This eliminates the need to cut through muscle tissue, which avoids permanent muscle damage. Without the muscle being detached from the pelvis or femur, as in a traditional procedure, the surgeon is able to work between the natural muscle groups. The incision needed for the anterior approach is only 3-5 inches, as compared to the traditional approach that needs 10-12 inches.

This procedure is made possible by the HANA table, a table specifically designed for hip surgeries. The table allows the surgeon to position the leg in a way that helps with the placement of the orthopedic component that is not possible on a conventional surgical table.

SOME OF THE BENEFITS OF ANTERIOR HIP REPLACEMENT ARE:

- Reduced tissue trauma
- Less pain
- Faster recovery
- Little or no physical therapy
- 1 – 2 day hospital stay
- Fewer post-operation activity restrictions
- Reduced dislocation risk

WHAT TO EXPECT DURING THE PROCEDURE:

The patient is given anesthesia, usually a spinal. The patient's feet are placed in compression boots that hold the legs in position during the surgery and prevent intra-operative blood clot formation. An incision is made at the front of the hip and by following the natural plane between muscles the surgeon exposes the hip. The arthritic femoral head and neck are then removed, and space is made for the artificial component.

The table rotates the leg so that the foot is facing outward and extends the hip by dropping the foot to the floor to allow femoral access. X-rays are taken during the surgery to ensure correct position, sizing and fit of the artificial hip components. After all the components have been placed the leg is returned to its normal position, which allows the new femoral head to go into the hip socket. The wound is then washed with an antibiotic solution and closed.

An anterior total hip replacement surgery takes about 90 minutes to complete.

