

## **What you need to know about knee and hip replacement surgery**

On Wednesday 23 February, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, Mr Alex Chipperfield and Associate Specialist Surgeon, Mr Kumar Reddy hosted our hip and knee replacement surgery webinar.

Mr Chipperfield and Mr Reddy have many years' experience between them in the field of hip and knee replacements and carry out around 900 joint replacements a year at Benenden Hospital.

During the webinar they spoke about why you would need either hip or knee replacement surgery and what happens, before, during and after the surgery.

### **What is total knee replacement surgery?**

Total knee replacement surgery replaces your damaged knee joint with an artificial joint. An unicompartmental knee replacement, also known as a [partial knee replacement](#) replaces only part of your knee with an artificial joint.

A knee replacement operation (arthroplasty) is usually only recommended after non-surgical knee treatments such as pain relief, therapy and muscle strengthening have been tried first.

### **What is a total hip replacement surgery?**

A hip replacement operation replaces your damaged hip joint with an artificial ball and socket joint implant to ease pain and discomfort and improvement. The joint may be held in place within the existing bones, with or without the use of cement.

Bone cement is an epoxy resin which reinforces the fixations of the implant into the bone. It's usually used for patients in their 70s and older who are more likely to suffer with weakness of the bone, known as osteoporosis.

In younger, stronger people an uncemented implant is generally used. This is usually coated with chemicals that allow the bone to grow into the implant itself and make it solid.

Mr Chipperfield, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon said: "Hip replacement surgery is highly successful and can change your life for the better. "

During the webinar, there were a number of questions asked, some of which included:

- When was the right time to consider knee surgery?
- Did a patient need to lose weight and gain muscle strength prior to a total hip replacement?
- Concerns around waiting times for hip replacements on the NHS, which are currently two years
- Allergies to some metals such as hyper allergenic metals, so how would the allergy issue be dealt with?

Mr Chipperfield and Mr Reddy answered a variety of different questions, and the full webinar is available to watch on our [website](#)

**Considering private hip and knee replacement surgery?**

To contact us about private hip and knee replacement surgery, book a consultation today by completing our [online booking form](#) or by calling our Private Patient Team on 01580 363158.

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