

Birmingham Hip Resurfacing

You may be a candidate for an alternative, less invasive approach to a total hip replacement. The Birmingham Hip Resurfacing, which has long been used in England, is now available for use in the United States. Hip Resurfacing is ideal for young, active adults normally under the age of 60. Resurfacing is also ideal for those who may have severe arthritis of the hip, but have good bone structure in the femoral head and femur shaft.

In this procedure, the femoral head and neck is preserved which is usually removed during a total hip replacement. The surgeon removes a few centimeters of bone around the femoral head which then shapes it to the implant. A metal cup is also prepared to fit into the socket of your pelvis helping to form a new ball-and-socket joint.

Benefits

- Minimally Invasive: Since most of the pelvic and femur bone is conserved, the natural feeling of your joint is never lost during or after the procedure
- Does not change leg length equality
- Faster recovery and improved daily functions
- Sports and High Impact Activities are okay to do with a hip resurfacing
- If a full replacement is required later on in life, much easier and less traumatic due to conservation of bone.

General Complications

- Allergic reaction to any medication
- Blood loss during the procedure requiring transfusion
- Complication from spinal anesthesia
- Previous medical problems causing ongoing health problems and concerns
- Risks and Concerns specific to Birmingham Hip Resurfacing
- Femoral head fracture (incidence of 1%)
- Potential for increased levels of metal ions in the blood. (For patients with functioning kidneys, these metal ions are excreted.)

Preparing for Surgery

A consultation with your doctor or physician assistant, will help you determine if you are a candidate for a Birmingham Hip Resurfacing. To learn more about the Birmingham Hip Resurfacing, please visit www.surfacehippy.info