

Hip Resurfacing Offers Advantages for Younger, Active Patients

Lakeland orthopedic surgeons now offer hip resurfacing, an alternative to total hip replacement, which features several advantages for younger, more active patients.

Hip resurfacing is a bone-sparing, bone-preserving procedure that keeps the femur head and acetabulum in place while adding ceramic-on-ceramic surfaces. The underlying arthritis or degenerative hip disease is ground away. The procedure combines virtual elimination of dislocation with excellent prosthetic survivorship.

*"The Birmingham hip replacement is the first resurfacing prosthesis approved by the FDA for use in the United States," notes **Kenneth Edwards, MD.** "It has been widely used in Europe and Australia. The data has been convincing." Although other, unapproved hip resurfacing devices are available, Lakeland's surgeons are using the BHR exclusively.*

Edwards and his partner, **George Kolettis, MD,** received FDA-approved training from a leading expert in hip resurfacing, James McKenzie, MD. Drs. Edwards and Kolettis have since performed a number of the procedures. "One patient was a 39-year-old nurse with advanced arthritis," notes Dr. Kolettis. "We are delighted with the results. He was delighted with his return to pain-free movement and exercise."

The procedure maintains lifestyle and quality of life in younger patients. However, it is an excellent choice for older patients if their bones are strong enough to accept the implant.



Kenneth Edwards, MD (left) and George Kolettis, MD, perform hip resurfacing procedures at Lakeland. They are among the few in the United States who are FDA-approved to do so.

