



## *News Release*

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### **NEW HIP REPLACEMENT SURGERY CONDUCTED AT MAURY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER**

COLUMBIA, Tenn. – Dr. Jonathan Pettit is among the first in Middle Tennessee to utilize the anterior approach to hip replacement, performing the procedure at Maury Regional Medical Center in Columbia.

During total hip replacement, the ball and socket of the hip joint are surgically replaced with implants, which may be made from a variety of materials including metal, ceramic, and/or polyethylene, a medical-grade plastic. Traditionally, the surgeon makes an incision along the buttock or side of the leg to access the hip joint.

The anterior approach to total hip replacement is an alternative to traditional hip replacement surgery that provides the potential for less pain, faster recovery and improved mobility. Using this approach, the surgeon makes a smaller incision on the front of the leg.

“Unlike traditional hip replacement surgery, this technique allows the surgeon to work between the muscles and tissues without detaching them from either the hip or thigh bones,” said Dr. Pettit. “Patients who are candidates for this procedure are likely to benefit by having a shorter recovery time since key muscles are not detached using this technique.”

According to Dr. Pettit, other potential benefits of using the anterior approach are:

- Potential for fewer restrictions during recovery. Although each patient responds differently, this procedure seeks to help patients more freely bend their hip and bear their full weight immediately or soon after surgery.
- Possible reduced scarring because the technique allows for one relatively small incision. Since the incision is on the front side of the leg, the patient may be spared from the pain of sitting on scar tissue.
- Potential for stability of the implant sooner after surgery, resulting in part from the fact that the key muscles and tissues are not disturbed during the operation.

“I am very pleased with the results. Because the muscles supporting the hip are not detached, my patients have experienced greater flexibility and stability shortly after surgery, reducing their recovery time,” said Dr. Pettit.

#### ***About Maury Regional Medical Center***

*Maury Regional Medical Center has been recognized as one of the nation’s 100 Top Hospitals, a Top 50 health system, one of only 21 hospitals in the nation to receive the Premier Award for Quality, and a 2009 Excellence Award winner by the Tennessee Center for Performance Excellence. The 275-bed facility serves more than 260,000 people in southern Middle Tennessee and has a medical staff of more than 185 physicians. From a comprehensive interventional and surgical heart program with chest pain center accreditation to a neonatal intensive care and cancer center, the medical center offers a wide range of advanced services. For more information, visit [mauryregional.com](http://mauryregional.com).*