



TISSUE GUIDED KNEE SURGERY

by Dr. W. Kim Furman

Knee arthritis can severely limit one's active lifestyle. When conservative modalities fail to provide pain relief and improved function, joint replacement may be the answer.

The knee joint is made up of three compartments including the lateral or outer side, the medial or inner side and the patellofemoral or kneecap compartment.

Although total knee replacement (TKR) is one of the most successful orthopedic procedures performed, patients frequently have arthritis localized in only one compartment, usually the medial side.

These patients may be excellent candidates for a partial or unicompartmental knee arthroplasty (UKA).

Unlike total knee replacement, which resurfaces the entire knee joint, unicompartmental knee arthroplasty replaces only the arthritic knee compartment.

When used with strict criteria, unicompartmental knee arthroplasty combined with minimally invasive technique offers the patients advantages including restoring normal knee function, greater range-of-motion, less blood loss and quicker recovery when compared to total knee replacement.

Unicompartmental knee arthroplasty is not a new operation.

What is new about this procedure are the procedural techniques used to perform the operation.

Tissue-guided surgery or TGS® is a revolutionary knee system that allows your surgeon to prepare the arthritic knee using the patient's own unique natural knee motion and ligament balance.

The TGS® UKA system of instruments resurface only the diseased portion of the knee leaving the healthy portion of the knee intact.

The surgical incision is smaller, the normal cartilage and bone is preserved, and the patient's stabilizing knee ligaments are retained resulting in a shorter hospitalization, a rapid recovery, and a knee that feels natural.

In comparison to other UKA procedures available, the TGS® system does not require an expensive robot or a CT scan before surgery that may not be covered by insurance.

The TGS® UKA system is cleared by the FDA and is eligible for reimbursement by the insurance industry and Medicare.

Dr. Furman has been with Sarasota Orthopedic Associates for over 25 years. Call 941-951-BONE. Website: www.soa.md.