



News Release

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### **CCH Now Offering Robotic-Arm Assisted Hip and Knee Replacement Surgeries**

For Immediate Release

**(COLUMBUS, Neb.)** – Columbus Community Hospital (CCH) is one of the first hospitals in the area to offer robotic-arm assisted total knee, partial knee and total hip replacements with Stryker’s Mako Robotic-Arm Assisted Surgery System.

Mako’s highly advanced robotic technology transforms the way hip and knee replacement surgeries are performed by enabling surgeons to have a more predictable surgical experience with increased accuracy.

“I look at the Mako robotic system as the newest evolution of technology in doing total joint replacements. It’s kind of like going from a flip phone to a smart phone,” said Dr. Richard Cimpl, orthopedic surgeon and orthopedic medical director at CCH.

With the Mako Robotic-Arm Assisted Surgery System, orthopedic surgeons can control sizing and implant position based on a preoperative CT scan. This planning is useful during surgery because it gives the orthopedic surgeon more information to control and perfect alignment. While the orthopedic surgeon still does the operation, the Mako Robotic-Arm Assisted Surgery System is brought into position to make the cuts.

“It allows us to precisely make the bone cuts and place the components in total knees and total hips more accurately and precisely, so we can get a perfect alignment every time,” Cimpl said.

When bone cuts are performed with this robotic-assisted technology, there are benefits for patients after surgery.

“There is less soft tissue damage, therefore less postsurgical pain and quicker recovery,” said Dr. Shawn Brandenburg, orthopedic surgeon. “This may ultimately result in improved patient satisfaction and better outcomes.”

Sue Hrnicek, MSN, CNOR, RN, director of CCH’s Surgical Services, said the increased accuracy and customization of these surgeries can also lead to shorter hospital stays for joint replacement patients.

Another benefit of the Mako system at CCH is it allows area residents to stay closer to home for these types of procedures.



“It provides state-of-the-art care in a community setting, so patients are getting the best care they can get,” Hrnicek said. “Even the big hospitals don’t have this yet, so we’re providing the highest level of care and you’re still able to do it in your community.”

This will be particularly important in coming years as the demand for joint replacement surgeries is expected to rise. Total knee replacements in the United States are estimated to increase by 673 percent by 2030, while primary total hip replacements are estimated to increase by 174 percent.

“The number of joint procedures is going to increase dramatically,” said Dr. Cimpl. “Using the Mako system is a way of meeting that need more accurately, safely and hopefully with better results so the prosthesis we put in will last longer.”

For more information on the Mako Robotic-Arm Assisted Surgery System and how it will affect hip and knee replacement surgeries at CCH, visit [www.columbushosp.org](http://www.columbushosp.org).

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