

Knee Replacements in Canada: Information for People Living With Osteoarthritis

Co-designed with a patient advisory group



Knee replacement surgeries can improve mobility and quality of life for many people. They can be especially helpful for people who have spent years managing severe pain from osteoarthritis.



What are knee replacement surgeries?

Knee replacement surgeries replace all or part of the knee with an artificial device (prosthesis). In a partial replacement, healthy parts of the knee are kept, and only the damaged parts of the knee are replaced or resurfaced.

90% of first knee replacements due to osteoarthritis are total. These may or may not include kneecap (patella) resurfacing.

10% are partial.

- What are the main reasons for a “redo” (revision) surgery?

Reasons for “redo” surgery include infection, loosening and dislocation related to a knee replacement.

- Do people have to stay overnight at the hospital after knee replacement surgery?

People may stay the night after surgery. But more knee replacement surgeries are now done as day surgeries. In those cases, people go home on the day of the surgery.

About

83,700

knee replacements

due to osteoarthritis
are done in Canada
each year



About **1 in 479** Canadians
have knee replacements
due to osteoarthritis
each year

That’s about
1 in 130 Canadians
age 65 and older

What are
satisfaction
rates 1 year
after surgery?



86%

of people **younger
than 65** are
satisfied with their
knee replacement



87%

of people **65
and older** are
satisfied with their
knee replacement



88%

of all people with knee
replacements report
a **positive change**
in **quality of life**

CIHI is an independent, not-for-profit organization that provides essential information on Canada’s health systems and the health of people living in Canada.

The **Canadian Joint Replacement Registry**, managed by CIHI, is a national medical device registry. It collects information about prostheses used in joint replacements. It also creates a yearly report with information on prosthesis and revision risks.

Patient-reported outcome measures are based on surveys patients complete before and after surgery. These measures help health systems understand surgical impacts, satisfaction rates, function changes and quality of life changes.

For more information, speak to your surgeon.

These websites may also be helpful:

- **Canadian Institute for Health Information**
www.cihi.ca/jointreplacement
- **Arthritis Society Canada**
arthritis.ca
- **Canadian Orthopaedic Foundation**
movepainfree.org

