Is it Time for a New Joint?

A new hip or knee can be life-changing. It might be a good option if:

✔ You’re avoiding using the joint because it hurts.
✔ The pain is making it difficult for you to work, enjoy hobbies, socialize or do other daily activities.
✔ Other treatments — such as exercise or medications — haven’t helped the pain.

Summit Sports Medicine & Orthopaedic Surgery physicians see patients by appointment to ensure ample time for thorough examination and consultation. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call the location nearest you.

► Medical Plaza
3025 Shrine Rd., Suite 390
Brunswick
912-466-7340

► Wellness Way
7000 Wellness Way, Suite 7110
St. Simons Island
912-466-5570

► Medical Pavilion
2060 Dan Proctor Dr., Suite 1400
St. Marys
912-576-6355
Dan Champaigne tried to work around his knee pain. He stayed active, walking and biking, with the hope that the pain would go away. Then one day his knee gave out, and he found himself on the ground.

“I figured my knee problem was probably more than I wanted to acknowledge, and it was,” he says. “This stubborn old guy finally got it checked out.”

Denny A. Carter, M.D., a board-certified orthopaedic surgeon with Summit Sports Medicine & Orthopaedic Surgery, explained to Mr. Champaigne that he needed a total knee replacement — and that he was a great candidate for Mako® Robotic-Arm Assisted Surgery.

An innovative procedure
The Mako System is the latest, high-tech joint replacement tool for replacing worn-out hips and knees.

“Mako is not reinventing the wheel when it comes to total hip and knee or partial knee replacements,” says Beau Sasser, M.D., board-certified orthopaedic surgeon at Summit Sports Medicine & Orthopaedic Surgery. “However, it improves the accuracy of these procedures by allowing the implants to be placed in the best possible position for each individual patient.”

That exact, personalized care with Mako starts with a CT scan of the patient’s diseased joint.

The scan is then uploaded into the Mako System software, which creates a 3-D model of the joint. The surgeon uses the model to identify the best size implant to insert — and how best to position it — based on the patient’s specific anatomy. All of this takes place prior to surgery, and it ensures that the implant will fit perfectly.

During the actual operation, the surgeon guides the Mako robotic arm to make precise cuts — based on the pre-surgery planning — in the hip or knee bone to install the artificial joint.

“Any candidate for traditional knee replacement is a candidate for Mako surgery,” says Dr. Carter. “In fact, some of the more difficult cases that may have given us pause in the past, due to potential complications, are now possible with Mako.”

The benefits of Mako
The Mako System is so precise that surgeons can use it to target only the damaged areas of the joint, preserving surrounding healthy bone and tissue. This can decrease pain and reduce hospital stays for patients.

Many patients who have joint replacement surgery with the Mako System often enjoy faster recoveries and better range of motion compared to people who have traditional joint replacement surgery.

Just do it!
Mr. Champaigne started physical therapy within hours after his surgery. “They get you right up and going,” he says.

“The whole experience with the Summit team and the orthopaedic department at Southeast Georgia Health System has been great,” adds Mr. Champaigne. “From diagnosis and the Joint Journey classes beforehand to the surgery and physical therapy, I’ve been totally informed. I knew what to expect.”

“I would certainly recommend having your knee replaced, if necessary,” he says. “It will give you a new lease on life. Don’t hesitate — don’t do like me and wait until you fall. Go see about it, and get it taken care of!”

Get back to enjoying life again.

Learn more about the benefits of joint replacement surgery at sghs.org/joint-replacement.