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Risks and Benefits of

Partial Knee Arthroplasty

Today, you and Dr. Bohnenkamp discussed the possibility of having a partial knee replacement (arthroplasty). This is a surgical procedure, and there are risks of complications associated with any surgical procedure.

Possible Complications of a Uni Knee Replacement (arthroplasty)

Extensor mechanism disruption or fracture

Wound healing complications

Arthrofibrosis (joint stiffness, which may require a manipulation)

Instability

Loosening

Limb length discrepancies

Malrotation

Malpositioning

Patella maltracking

Effusions

Persistent pain and dissatisfaction and mobility dysfunction (especially if history of chronic pain, depression, fibromyalgia, or other chronic pain conditions)

Failure and limitation of the procedure, which could lead to future surgeries

Difficulty kneeling

Sensory skin changes or dysfunction

Unsightly scarring

Prolonged swelling

Spasms and peri-articular tendonitis

Prosthetic noise generation

Possible Complications of Surgery

Complications with anesthesia

Heart attack

Cardiac arrest

Blood clot in the leg or lung

Stroke

Post-op ileus or bowel obstruction

Delirium and confusion

Excess bleeding requiring blood transfusions

Problems associated with prolonged positioning under anesthesia

Decubiti (pressure sores)

Post-op pneumonia

Atelectasis (fluid in the lungs)

Skin infection

Urinary tract infection

Neurovascular injury of the operative and non-operative limbs

Amputation

Infection

Wound healing complications, especially if you smoke

Death

There is a 10% chance that within 10 years, a partial knee replacement will need to be converted to a total knee replacement.

These complications are rare and even less likely in Dr. Bohnenkamp's hands. These problems can and do occur without negligence.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns prior to scheduling surgery, please don't hesitate to contact our office.



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The benefits of this procedure are to eliminate the arthritis pain and restore motion to the joint while leaving the non-arthritic compartments of the knee unchanged.

