

A B O U T T H E P H Y S I C I A N S



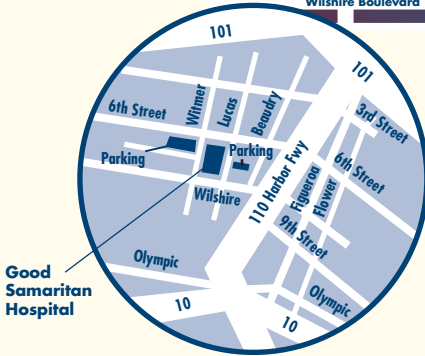
Dr. Jonathan R. Saluta

Dr. Saluta specializes in hip and knee replacement, foot and ankle surgery and general orthopedics. He earned his medical degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and he completed orthopedic residency training at the Medical College of Virginia. Dr. Saluta also completed a fellowship in complex foot and ankle reconstruction at Duke University. Dr. Saluta is a member of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, the American Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Society and the Piedmont Orthopaedic Society. Dr. Saluta has co-authored several book chapters and publications and he has presented research at orthopedic meetings throughout the country.



Dr. Tae Shin

Dr. Shin is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon specializing in hip and knee replacement, spine surgery and general orthopedics. Dr. Shin earned his medical degree from Yale University School of Medicine. He completed his orthopedic residency training at the State University of New York at Brooklyn and a Spine Surgery Fellowship at New England Baptist Medical Center in Boston. Prior to joining the Los Angeles Orthopaedic Center, Dr. Shin was Clinical Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at Tufts University School of Medicine, also in Boston. Dr. Shin is co-author of numerous publications and a presenter at many orthopedic meetings throughout the country. He is a member of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, the California Orthopaedic Association and the North American Spine Society.



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ARTHRITIS OF THE KNEE

Osteoarthritis (OA) is inflammation of the bone joint. It is a progressive and degenerative disease in which the articular cartilage (the smooth gliding surface of the joint) gradually wears away. OA most often affects middle-aged and older people.

Other types of knee arthritis include rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and post-traumatic arthritis. RA is an inflammatory type of arthritis that can destroy the joint cartilage. It can occur at any age and generally affects both knees. Post-traumatic arthritis can develop after an injury to the knee. This type of arthritis is similar to OA and may develop years after a fracture, ligament injury or meniscus tear.

Generally, the pain associated with arthritis develops gradually, although sudden onset is also possible. The joint may become stiff and swollen, making it difficult to bend or straighten the knee. Pain and swelling are often worse in the morning or after a period of inactivity. Pain may also increase after physical activities such as walking or climbing stairs. The pain may often cause a feeling of weakness in the knee resulting in "locking" or "buckling." Many people report that changes in the weather also affect the degree of arthritis pain.



Figure 1a
Front and side views of a normal knee



Figure 1b



Figure 2a
Front and side views of an arthritic knee



Figure 2b



K N E E R E P L A C E M E N T



Figure 3a



Figure 3b

Image of knee following replacement

Knee replacement is one of the most successful of all surgical procedures and a major contribution to modern surgery. Recovery takes approximately three months and the vast majority of patients enjoy many years of painless knee function with no limits on their ability to stand, walk and perform other normal daily activities.

In total knee replacement surgery, only the worn-out cartilage surfaces of the joint are actually replaced—not the entire knee.

The procedure is basically a "re-surfacing" (or "re-tread") operation and only a small amount of bone is removed. In addition, the collateral ligament, muscles and tendons are left intact.

Infrared Knee Mapping Navigation System

This infrared knee mapping navigation system uses wireless "pointers" and "Trackers" that enable surgeons to optimize the alignment and orientation of instruments.





COMPUTER-ASSISTED NAVIGATION SYSTEMS

Until recently, orthopedic surgeons had to rely on X-rays and experience alone to achieve maximum accuracy when inserting knee prostheses. Today, the surgeons at the Los Angeles Orthopaedic Center at Good Samaritan Hospital employ a computer-guided navigation system similar to that used in Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) systems to obtain more precise placement of the implants. This infrared knee-mapping navigation system uses wireless “pointers” and “trackers” that enable the surgeons to optimize the alignment and orientation of instruments, to pinpoint the location and depth of bone cuts and to insert the implant components with maximum accuracy.

The navigation system is setting new standards in knee replacement surgery. The computer-guided mapping navigation system increases surgical accuracy and continually monitors the mechanical alignment and status of soft tissue during surgery. This results in greater joint stability, fewer complications and shorter hospital stays even in the most challenging anatomic situations.

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