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# Best Approach for Hip Replacement

The debate over the 'best' approach to hip replacement has been ongoing for decades. The honest answer is that no single approach is universally superior — outcomes depend far more on surgeon experience and skill than on the specific technique. Dr Liew has trained in all major approaches and has chosen the direct anterior approach as his primary technique based on its muscle-sparing profile and the evidence for faster early recovery.

## THE TECHNIQUE

### 01 Posterior Approach

Most used in Australia; excellent access but requires posterior capsule repair.

### 02 Direct Anterior Approach

Muscle-sparing; allows same-day walking; preferred by Dr Liew.

### 03 Lateral Femoral Nerve

Proximity to the LFCN in DAA is managed with careful technique.

### 04 Surgeon Experience Matters

Long-term outcomes are equivalent across approaches in experienced hands.

## AT A GLANCE

### APPROACHES

**4+ Methods**

### DR LIEW

**Direct Anterior**

### RECOVERY

**Faster Early**

### LONG-TERM

**Equivalent Results**

"The best approach  
is the one done expertly."

— Dr Chien-Wen Liew

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Q. Which approach does Dr Liew use exclusively?

The direct anterior approach (DAA) is Dr Liew's primary technique for all total hip replacements.

### Q. Is there a nerve risk with the anterior approach?

The lateral femoral cutaneous nerve runs near the incision. With careful technique, this risk is minimised and is typically temporary if it occurs.

### Q. Can I request a specific approach?

Absolutely. Dr Liew will discuss all options at your consultation and explain why the DAA is recommended for your case.

## ABOUT THE SURGEON

Dr Chien-Wen Liew exclusively performs total hip replacements via the direct anterior approach and total knee replacements via kinematic alignment only. He utilises patient-specific technology for both procedures, and practices from Orthopaedics 360 — within the Eastwood Private Hospital Precinct.

Dr Chien-Wen Liew

Hip and Knee Replacement Surgeon

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