

# Is the Anterior Approach Right for You?

The direct anterior approach is suitable for the majority of patients requiring a total hip replacement. It is particularly well-suited to patients with significant hip arthritis causing pain and functional limitation. While it offers clear benefits in early recovery and absence of dislocation restrictions, there are a small number of situations where it may not be the optimal choice. Dr Liew will assess your anatomy and history to confirm suitability at your consultation.



SCAN TO READ MORE

## 01 Typical Indication

Significant hip arthritis with failed conservative management.

## 02 Benefits of DAA

No muscle cutting, no restrictions, same-day walking.

## 03 When DAA May Not Apply

Previous extensive hip surgery, severe obesity, or complex anatomy.

## 04 Personal Assessment

Anatomy, BMI, and X-ray reviewed at consultation.

### SUITABLE

Majority of Patients

### ASSESSMENT

At Consultation

### BENEFITS

No Restrictions

### EXCEPTIONS

Complex Anatomy

"Most patients are excellent candidates for this approach."

— Dr Chien-Wen Liew

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Q. What makes a patient a good candidate?

Most patients with hip arthritis are good candidates. Dr Liew assesses your X-rays, body habitus, and surgical history at your first consultation.

### Q. Is the anterior approach suitable for large patients?

BMI is one factor Dr Liew considers. Many larger patients are still excellent candidates; it is assessed individually rather than by a fixed BMI cutoff.

### Q. What if I have had previous hip surgery?

Prior surgery makes planning more complex. Dr Liew will review your history and imaging carefully — previous surgery does not automatically exclude the DAA.

## 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.