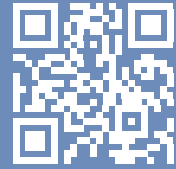


Skin Closure After Hip & Knee Replacement



SCAN TO WATCH VIDEO

Wound closure is the final and one of the most important steps of hip and knee replacement surgery. The technique used determines how soft tissue heals, the appearance of the final scar, and the risk of wound-related complications. Absorbable sutures placed deep under the skin, combined with a modern waterproof dressing, produce a wound that heals predictably and with minimal scarring.

THE TECHNIQUE

01 Deep Layer Closure

Strong absorbable sutures restore the deep tissue layers first.

02 Subcuticular Stitching

Fine sutures placed under the skin produce a minimal, linear scar.

03 Wound Dressing

A waterproof occlusive dressing is applied to protect the wound.

04 Water Activity Guidance

Showering permitted early; submerging in water avoided for 4 weeks.

AT A GLANCE

SUTURES

Absorbable

DRESSING

Waterproof

SHOWERING

Day 1 Post-Op

SWIMMING

4 Weeks After

"How we close is as important
as how we open."

— Dr Chien-Wen Liew

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Will I have visible stitches to remove?

No. Absorbable sutures are placed under the skin — there are no external stitches to remove.

Q. When can I get the wound wet?

Showering with the waterproof dressing is fine from day one. Submerging the wound (baths, pools, ocean) is avoided for 4 weeks.

Q. What if the wound looks red or swollen?

Some redness and swelling is normal in the first 2 weeks. Contact the Orthopaedics 360 rooms immediately if you have increasing pain, discharge, or fever.

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

Orthopaedics 360 · Eastwood Private Hospital, Adelaide SA

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