

Total Joint Replacement FAQ

When to Consider Total Joint Replacement:

If your knees ache or climbing up stairs is harder than it used to be, you may be a candidate for knee or hip joint replacement surgery. How do you know if you're ready?

Ask yourself the following questions to see if joint replacement may be the next step for you:

- Do you experience pain on a daily basis that prevents you from sleeping at night?
- Do you experience pain that limits your daily activities?
- Have you explored all treatment options available, such as medication, injections, exercise, physical therapy and assistive devices?
- Have you had previous injuries to your knee or hip?
- Do you find yourself less mobile than you used to be?
- Have your pain or stiffness gotten increasingly worse in the past year?
- Can you live with the pain you're experiencing?

If you answer **YES** for many of these questions, than it's possible you may benefit from joint replacement surgery.

Questions to Ask Your Doctor:

Joint replacement surgery isn't for everyone. When making the decision to have joint replacement, it's important to meet with your physician and consider all the possibilities. Next time you meet with your doctor, ask them the following questions:

- Am I healthy enough for surgery?
- If I don't get the surgery, what is my risk?
- How long will I be in the hospital?
- How much time do I need to take off for recovery?
- How much pain should I expect post-surgery?
- What type of physical therapy is involved post-surgery?
- What are the most frequent complications associated with surgery?
- How will surgery improve my condition?

Still wondering if joint replacement is right for you?

Schedule an appointment with an orthopedic specialist by calling
855-UMASS-MD (855-862-7763).

