



Community Health Network

*News Release*

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**For Immediate Release**

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**CHN Orthopedics the  
Choice throughout Wisconsin**

**(March 1, 2010)** – A physically fit, 66 year old male, Richard Wallden, a former Police Captain for the City of Madison, didn't take it lightly when the time had come to replace his progressively degenerating hip. With 60-80 hours of internet research, he armed himself with information on the orthopedic procedures available, the anesthesia options, and types of bearing surfaces – he truly did his homework.

It quickly became apparent to him that a relatively new surgical approach (direct anterior approach) to total hip replacement was ideal for him because it did not involve cutting muscles and tendons to install his new hip. He discovered that it offered substantially reduced recovery and rehabilitative time, as well as a critical reduction in the probability of future hip dislocations. This procedure also offers no post-operative hip precautions. He then began to focus on identifying a surgeon to perform the procedure and a hospital to accommodate his needs. He was surprised that there were so few orthopedic surgeons in the state performing the direct anterior approach, and even fewer hospitals where the procedure was currently being performed.

Although Wallden had appointments with other orthopedic surgeons, he knew within minutes of meeting with David Jones, MD, Orthopedic Surgeon for CHN, that he had found the right

surgeon and hospital. CHN was equipped with a special surgical table necessary to perform the procedure. Dr. Jones was an experienced orthopedic surgeon who not only had successful experience with direct anterior approach, but also utilized an epidural, rather than general anesthesia, as well as computer-assisted technology to ensure proper pinpoint placement of the new hip.

Dr. Jones not only performs these types of hip replacements, he encourages them. “There are so many benefits to the anterior approach. I have seen such success with these hip replacements; it’s a huge advancement that people need to know about,” said Dr. Jones. Wallden couldn’t agree more. “I can’t imagine why anyone needing a hip replacement would do anything BUT the anterior approach,” he said.

Wallden met with Tony Singh, CRNA with Central Wisconsin Anesthesia Associates, located at CHN. “I was fascinated that in a pre-surgery meeting I met directly with the surgeon, the anesthetist, and a nurse. I was told exactly what would take place during my surgery. Tony from anesthesia explained this surgery would require an epidural (a regional anesthesia), and that I would not be completely asleep at any part of the surgery.” Berlin Memorial Hospital, Dr. Jones, and Anesthesia had all exceeded Wallden’s expectations.

Wallden scheduled his surgery, however during his pre-surgery physical, an Atrial Fibrillation (heart rhythm disorder) was discovered. He was immediately seen by a Cardiologist who worked with him, and soon after cleared him for surgery. The total hip replacement surgery took place February 10<sup>th</sup>. “Within 24 hours, the physical therapist had me walking the halls,” said Wallden. Only two short days following surgery, he was discharged with a new lease on life.

“Over the course of the past 10 years, I dealt with chronic hip pain, and it became progressively worse. As a very active person, it was hard to deal with. I was taking several Ibuprofen every day to curb the pain. Now? I am close to pain-free, getting stronger every day. I am absolutely convinced I made the best decision to have Dr. Jones perform my surgery at Berlin Memorial Hospital.”

“I can’t say enough about the outstanding care I received from all areas – the surgery team, to inpatient nursing staff, rehab...they were all great.” His recommendation to others, “You need

to know your situation and options when you are putting your life in someone else's hands. Do your homework and choose wisely. I know I did.”

To find out more about surgical options at CHN, call 920-361-5480.