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Dr. Kirt Kimball Combines Computer Assisted Orthopedic Surgery with Minimal Incision Surgery

Dr. Kirt Kimball has been performing Computer Assisted Orthopedic Surgery (CAOS) since August of 2004. He has performed approximately 100 total knee replacements using this advanced computer technology. CAOS enables the surgeon to perform the operation with a high level of accuracy and, at the same time, with less violation or invasion of the bone.

Minimal Incision Surgery (MIS) has become a sought after goal in many surgical procedures. To perform the same operation through a smaller incision usually means less pain and a faster recovery.

Dr. Kimball brought together these two technologies recently. He used new MIS techniques and special instruments combined with CAOS to perform a total knee replacement through a three and a half inch incision. Traditional surgery usually requires a six to eight inch incision.

"Is a smaller scar that important," said Dr. Kimball? "In total knee replacement surgery, it is far more important than just a smaller scar. The procedure is performed without having to cut many of the ligaments and tendons that are typically cut when a standard total knee replacement is performed." Cutting and repairing less tissue means less pain, swelling, bleeding, scaring and thus a faster, less painful recovery.

"CAOS enables MIS," said Dr. Kimball. By employing advanced computer technology, the surgery can be performed with confidence making sure the alignment and fit of the components are accurate even though the surgery is performed through a tiny incision.

By combining these technologies, Dr. Kimball expects patients to recover faster and with less pain. Patients should be able to return more quickly to normal activities of life without the pain and disability associated from an arthritic knee.