

MEET THE ORTHOPAEDIC TEAM

This guide helps you get to know the Orthopaedic Team members you will be meeting at different points along your care journey at North York General Hospital.



Orthopaedic Surgeons specialize in diagnosing, treating, preventing, and rehabilitating injuries and diseases of the musculoskeletal system, including the muscles, joints, ligaments, tendons, nerves, and bones. At North York General the Orthopaedic Surgeons specialize in a variety of procedures including: Total Knee Replacements, Total Hip Replacements (anterior, posterior, and lateral approaches), Shoulder Arthroplasties (total, reverse, and hemi approaches), sports injuries, trauma procedures, and surgeries of the foot, ankle, and upper extremities.

Total Joint Assessment Centre

Interprofessional Team of Nurses and Physiotherapists working closely with the Surgeons.



Advanced Practice Physiotherapists (APP) are highly trained clinicians in arthritis care. The APP will triage, assess, and educate patients with regards to their arthritic condition. The APP will be able to give you insight as to whether you may require hip and/or knee replacement as well as alternative non-surgical treatment options in the community.

Pre-operative Visit



Pre-operative Nurses work with patients prior to surgery to complete paperwork, and help answer questions or calm fears about surgery. The Pre-operative Nurse will help ensure that you are adequately prepared and confident for your upcoming procedure. They also work closely with the Patient Navigator to facilitate a smooth transition back home.



Anesthesiologists are the perioperative physician (“peri-” meaning “all-around”) who provides medical care to each patient throughout his or her surgical experience. This includes medically evaluating the patient before surgery (preoperative), consulting with the surgical team, providing pain control with the help of a Nurse Practitioner and supporting life functions during surgery (intraoperative), supervising care after surgery (postoperative) and discharging the patient from the recovery unit.



Internal Medicine: Internists are part of the inter-professional team of the pre-operative clinic to provide medical consults when ordered by the Surgeons.



Pharmacists are responsible for conducting a thorough review of your current medications and ensuring that your medication taken at home is documented. They discuss how your medication regimen may be affected by surgery/hospitalization and provide education to help answer questions.

Navigation



Patient Navigator is a Registered Nurse, with master degree education who guide patients through the health care system, connecting them with the right professionals and helping them gain access to available resources. The Navigator is based at the hospital and is an ongoing resource for patients and families. The Patient Navigator coordinates care, and provides information and emotional support along the entire journey.

In-Patient Orthopaedic Unit



Orthopaedic Nurses focus on the prevention and treatment of musculoskeletal disorders and associated traumatic conditions. The Orthopaedic Nurses will help care for you post-operatively, assess your affected joint as well as your pain levels, and help you progress towards your recovery goals.



Nurse Practitioners are master degree prepared and have completed specialized education. They work closely with the Surgeons, Anesthesiologists and the Inter-professional Team to assist with your care. The Nurse Practitioner completes assessments, can diagnose and treat illnesses, order and interpret tests, as well as prescribe medications.



Physiotherapists help our patients to return to their previous level of function through early mobility, education, mobility training, and exercises to increase joint range of motion and strength.



Occupational Therapists help our patients develop, recover, as well as maintain the skills needed for your daily living activities, such as bathing and dressing. The Occupational Therapist will assess your equipment needs based on your physical abilities and home environment



Social Workers work with individuals and families to provide resource counselling and address discharge planning challenges as needed.



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Dieticians are experts in identifying and treating disease-related malnutrition and in conducting medical nutrition therapy. They provide education and can answer any questions you have related to your post-operative diet.