

It's **HIP** to be RESURFACED

YOUNGER PATIENTS OPT FOR RESURFACING AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO TOTAL HIP REPLACEMENTS

When people in Alaska need surgery, many head down to the state of Washington. But when Alaskan Jim Warner needed his arthritic hip repaired, he wanted to go to Ohio—more than 4,000 miles away.

“After doing some Internet research, I realized hip resurfacing would be better for me than a total hip replacement,” he says. “I found out that a Cleveland Clinic physician named Dr. Brooks does this surgery at Euclid Hospital. I knew the reputation of the Cleveland Clinic and thought, ‘Why would I go elsewhere?’”

What's Involved?

Rather than replacing the entire hip joint, as in a total hip replacement, hip resurfacing involves shaving and capping only a few millimeters of the

joint surface. Since this approach preserves more of the patient's natural bone, it reduces postoperative risks of dislocation and inaccurate leg length. The cobalt chrome implant also has the potential to last longer than traditional hip implants.

“With hip resurfacing, patients are able to keep most of their bone,” says Peter Brooks, M.D., an orthopaedic surgeon. “If the procedure fails, it can readily be converted to a hip replacement, but if a hip replacement fails, it's very difficult to redo.”

Warner, 55, was a good candidate for hip resurfacing because he is healthy, active and comparatively young. “Everyone at Euclid Hospital was very professional all the way down the line,” he says. “The nurses were really great, and I was very impressed by Dr. Brooks.”

Back to an Active Lifestyle

Now Warner is back at his log cabin outside of Fairbanks, where he is rapidly recovering and looking forward to returning to his active lifestyle, which includes working as an electrician and volunteer paramedic, and enjoying snowmobiling, sailing, river



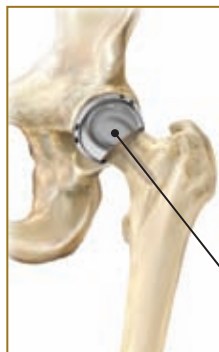
By Anne Gallagher

Thanks to a hip repair job he had done at Euclid Hospital, Jim Warner is once again enjoying snow-related activities at his home in Alaska.

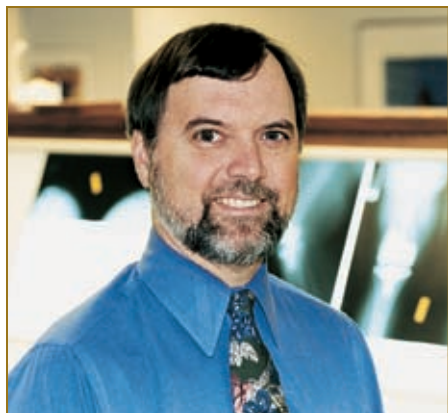
boating, rafting, ice carving, camping, playing in a harmonica band and ballroom dancing.

“It's been less than four weeks since I had the surgery, and already my arthritis pain is totally gone and I'm off of painkillers,” he says.

“It's amazing really. Every day my hip gets better and better. My grandfather lived to be 101; so, I figure I have the genes to live to an old age. If I'm going to live that long, I want to live well.” ■



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Peter Brooks, M.D.