



# Little Aston OASIS

Orthopaedic and Sports Injuries Services




Information

**Orthopaedic and Sports Injuries Services "OASIS"**  
**Munawar Shah FRCS, FRCS Tr & Orth**  
Consultant Trauma & Orthopaedic Surgeon

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[Shoulder Replacement](#)

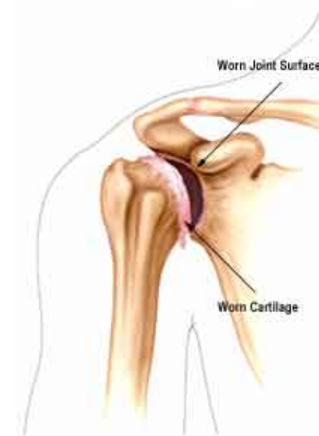
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The shoulder is a ball and socket joint. The ball portion of the joint is called the humeral head, and is part of the humerus (upper arm bone). The socket portion is called the glenoid, and is part of the scapula (shoulder blade). The humeral head (ball) fits into the glenoid (socket) and the two bones rub together as the shoulder moves.



In a healthy shoulder joint, the surfaces of these bones where the ball and socket rub together are very smooth and covered with a tough protective tissue called cartilage. Arthritis causes damage to the bone surfaces and cartilage. These damaged surfaces eventually become painful as they rub together.



There are many ways to treat the pain caused by arthritis. One way is total shoulder replacement surgery. The decision to have total shoulder replacement surgery should be made very carefully after consulting your doctor and learning as much as you can about the shoulder joint, arthritis, and the surgery. In total shoulder replacement surgery, the ball and socket that have been damaged by arthritis are removed and replaced with artificial parts made of metal and a very durable plastic material. We call these artificial parts "implants." These implants are shaped so that the shoulder joint will move in a way that is very similar to the way the joint moved when it was healthy.

Below is a list of things you may want to bring with you to the hospital in preparation for your surgery. Talk with your doctor as he/she may have additional information about preparing for your hospital stay.

- Your personal belongings should be left in the car until after surgery. Tell your family that your room will be assigned when you are in surgery or in recovery, at which point they can bring your personal items to your room.
- Personal grooming items that you may want to pack include a toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, eyeglasses/contacts, comb, deodorant, shaving cream/electric razor, shampoo, lotion, undergarments, and a robe.

- Bring slippers or flat rubber-soled shoes for walking in the hallways.
- Bring loose fitting clothing for your trip home.
- Bring any medications you are currently taking. You should also write down your medication information to be given to the hospital staff. Be sure to include the name, strength, and how often you take the medications. Please communicate any allergies you might have to your doctors and the nursing staff.
- Leave jewellery, credit cards, car and house keys, cheque books, and items of personal value at home. Bring only enough pocket money for items such as newspapers, magazines, etc.

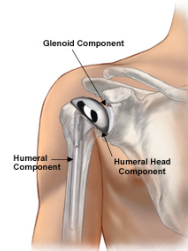
This procedure usually involves an anaesthetic [my anaesthetist](#) is an expert in regional blocks and you can have a choice of being awake while the surgery is done.

The patient is first taken into the operating room and positioned on a special operating table as though lounging in a beach chair. The arm is placed on a board that will allow the surgeon to move it up or down as necessary during the surgery. Anesthesia is given and, when it has taken effect, the skin around the shoulder and upper arm is thoroughly scrubbed and sterilized with an antiseptic liquid.

An incision about six inches long is then made over the shoulder joint. The incision is gradually made deeper through muscle and other tissue until the bones of the shoulder joint are exposed.



The shoulder joint is then replaced depending what the pathology is it can be a hemi or total replacement. I use the [SMR Shoulder system](#) from lima



A sterile bandage will be placed over the wound, and you will be sent to the recovery room where you will be carefully monitored. As the anesthesia wears off you will slowly regain consciousness. A nurse will be with you, and may encourage you to cough or breathe deeply to help clear our lungs. Your arm will be in a sling or brace, and it may be wrapped in an ice pack to help control pain and swelling. You will also be given pain medication. When you are fully conscious, you will be taken back to your hospital room.

When you are back in your hospital room, you will begin a gentle rehabilitation program to help relax the muscles around your new shoulder. On the day of surgery you may be encouraged to get out of bed and take a few steps. You will continue to receive pain medication as needed, and your bandage will be removed about two days after surgery.

Depending on your specific situation, you will probably remain in the hospital from one to three days. Your shoulder area may be warm and tender for several weeks. Before you are dismissed from the hospital, your physical therapist will show you how to perform the rehabilitation exercises that are important for your recover.

Successful joint replacement surgery may relieve your pain and stiffness, and may allow you to resume some of your normal daily activities as instructed by your doctor. But even after you have fully recovered from your surgery, you may still have some restrictions. Normal daily activities for shoulder replacement patients do not include contact sports "jamming" activities such as hammering, repetitive heavy lifting, or activities that put excessive strain on your shoulder. Although your artificial joint can be replaced, a second implant is seldom as successful as the first.

Talk with your doctor about the following points, and how they might affect the longevity and success of your shoulder replacement:

- Avoiding repetitive heavy lifting
- Avoiding "jamming" activities such as hammering
- Staying healthy and active
- Avoiding "impact loading" sports such as boxing
- Consulting your surgeon before beginning any new sport or activity, to discuss what type and intensity of sport or activity is appropriate for you
- Thinking before you move
- Not lifting or pushing heavy objects.




If you are interested in making an appointment to discuss a treatment, please click here to [contact us](#), or telephone 01215807406

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