



How to Choose a Good Orthopedic Surgeon

Having trouble with joints is a serious condition which affects a lot of people world-wide. Problems like osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, elbow pains, knee pains and hip problems are not uncommon in people over 50. While discomforting, these problems are not life threatening in the beginning. However, later, they can seriously impair mobility and cause more serious problems.

Aside from treating these problems through therapies, people choose to undergo surgeries which replace the affected joints or repair them.

When looking for an orthopedic surgeon, you have two options:

Find local surgeons – Finding a surgeon locally is a good thing if the orthopedic surgery is covered by your medical insurance. This saves you from spending money and from travelling, which is sometimes problematic with these conditions.

Find surgeons abroad – On the other hand, if the surgery is not covered by insurance it is possible that it will cost a lot in your area. Orthopedic surgery costs differ in different countries, which is why you should look abroad to check whether there are cheaper options abroad.

No matter what you choose, it is important to be informed about the surgeon who will be doing the procedure. The outcome of the surgery will determine your mobility for the rest of your life, but, if done poorly, can produce even more problems that it was intended to solve.

How to make an informed decision?

Making an informed decision about the surgeon that will perform the surgery is of vital importance. You have to put your trust in this person, and it is important not only for your peace of mind, but also because of future ramifications that a botched surgery can have on your health. The best route to an informed decision is through thorough research and comparison. In this case, this means

searching for available orthopedic surgeons, finding as much information about them as possible, and then comparing them against one another.

What to look for when researching orthopedic surgeons?

Qualifications and experience – The first thing that you have to check about the surgeon is how qualified they are to perform the surgery you need. Take a look at the certificates they have listed, which school they have finished and whether they have been a part of any symposium on the specific surgery that you require. This will show you whether the surgeon cares enough about his practice to stay updated, as well as give you information whether they follow the latest ways in the field. You should also note for how many years the doctor has been performing these procedures.

Pricing and inclusions – If you are going abroad, then you should know exactly how much money you will need, both for the surgery and for other costs. Most clinics show clear pricing information, however, those that don't should be avoided. Find out what is included in the treatment price, whether there are some optional parts, whether the transportation in the city itself is covered, etc. This will help you decide both because of the cost itself and because you will see whether the clinic provides clear information for their potential patients.

Check the facilities – Today, it is unacceptable for a clinic to have poor facilities. The surgeons have to be performing in the state-of-the-art infrastructure, which is properly maintained. You should always look to find pictures and videos of the facilities and, if possible, have a live talk with the surgeon. Just make sure to ask whether the surgeon you are speaking to will be the one performing the surgery. Some clinics put forward one surgeon for the live chat and then have another perform the surgery itself.

Questions to ask before booking

Is the surgeon certified by the relevant board to perform orthopedic surgeries? – Not all orthopedic surgeons have certificates, which is why it is very important to ask this. A certificate ascertains that this doctor has gone through the necessary training for conducting these surgeries.

How much will the treatment package cost me? – The cost of the package will depend on many things, notably on the surgical room fees, the experience of the surgeon, the length of the hospital stay, and the type of surgery itself. Don't always go for the cheapest, though, as, in some cases, this can mean that something is omitted from the package.

How much will other expenses, like travel and stay, cost me? – If travelling, these costs are also very important to know about. Getting stranded abroad with no money because of extra costs can be a tough situation to get out of, especially if you are recovering from a surgery.

Where will the surgery be performed? – Make sure that the clinic where the surgery will be done has all the required certificates and permissions. A good thing to look for would be certification by the International Joint Commission. They approve only those clinics which maintain the highest patient safety standards, so with those, you should be fine.

Are there any patient testimonials for the surgeon I'm looking at? – No one can tell it better than the previous patients. They have already been through this, so they can give the best referral as to how they were treated.

It is crucial that you get informed before choosing where to do your orthopedic surgery. While having joint problems might be difficult, your overall health is more important. If you had ever discussed someone who had a botched orthopedic surgery, those words would stay with you for a long time. If you get informed, you will avoid getting a botched surgery and improve your joints and your mobility. We are always there to help you get the right information and make the right choice, so contact us if you need an orthopedic surgery.

If you wish to book an orthopedic surgery or you wish to know more and get informed, contact us! We are here to answer all your questions.

[Contact us to find out more](#)