

4 ASCs Performing Rare Orthopedic Procedures

Written by Carrie Pallardy and Anuja Vaidya | April 04, 2014

University Center for Ambulatory Surgery (Somerset, N.J.). "We have been performing outpatient total joint replacements for close to 18 months now and have had phenomenal results. Our two principle joint surgeons, Dr. Steve Kayiaros and Dr. David Harwood have successfully performed anterior hip replacements, total knee replacements and unicompartmental knee replacements," **said Dean Giacobbe, MD, medical director of UCAS.**

Opened in August 2012, the 12,000-square-foot freestanding orthopedic specialty surgery center includes surgeons who perform the full spectrum of orthopedic surgical services, including sports medicine, upper extremity surgery, foot and ankle surgery, spine procedures, total joints and interventional pain management, according to Dr. Giacobbe.

"Our experience has shown that an increasing number of patients are great candidates for outpatient joint replacement because we have developed such a comprehensive program with full home support and state of the art pain management techniques," he said. "Our patients have confirmed our initial hunch, that is, that they would rather recover at home and have a much better experience than spending the usual three days in a hospital after their operation."

The center currently has three joint surgeons and there are plans to add additional joint replacements, such as shoulders or ankles.

"Our hope is that as this paradigm shift occurs, and more joint replacements are done in the outpatient setting, insurance carriers will begin to realize both the value added and cost savings for their clients and will be more willing to reimburse for these procedures rather than mandating they be done in an inpatient setting," said Dr. Giacobbe.