



WEAK AT THE KNEES?

Tony Smith FRCS (Tr and Orth) is a consultant orthopaedic surgeon and knee specialist, practising at the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry; the Maelor Hospital, Wrexham; and the Yale Hospital, Wrexham. He specialises purely in disorders of the knee and offers a comprehensive service for all age groups and activity levels, both in the NHS and in private practice.

Mr Smith completed his undergraduate medical education at Edinburgh University, graduating in 1989. He then gained a commission to the Royal Army Medical Corps. After training at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, he joined the Grenadier Guards as their medical officer. This proved to be a very rewarding commitment, with several tours of duty around the world.

On completion of his tour with the Guards, Mr Smith entered surgical training. He gained his FRCS and commenced training in orthopaedic surgery. He developed an interest in disorders of the knee as a military surgeon and, having left the service in the rank of Major, enhanced his experience as a registrar on the Welsh Orthopedic Training Programme. Consultant appointment was made to his present posts in 2001, after he completed a knee surgery fellowship in Adelaide.

Mr Smith is purely a knee specialist and offers a service covering all aspects of knee disorders, for all age groups and activity levels. Arthroscopy and cruciate ligament reconstruction surgery

form a large part of his practice, and can usually be performed as a day case procedure.

Knee joint replacement is also a significant component of Mr Smith's practice. He presently performs over 250 total knee replacements a year, plus 60 unicompartmental knee replacements and 25 revision procedures. This places him firmly in the high volume end of the speciality.

EARLY ARTHRITIS INTERVENTION

Mr Smith has a particular interest in early arthritis and the place of surgical intervention in improving symptoms and maintaining function. He offers an osteotomy service for patients who fulfil strict criteria, and has enjoyed considerable success with this over the years.

Some patients require more extensive surgical intervention to restore function. Mr Smith has been closely involved in cartilage transplant, meniscal allografting, microfracture and, recently, implantation of man-made meniscus implants. This is all part of ongoing research projects and can be discussed on an individual basis.

Disorders of the patella-femoral joint are also addressed in Mr Smith's practice. He provides a service for patients with patellar instability, utilising medial patella-femoral ligament reconstruction, realignment osteotomy and trochleoplasty.

A rapid recovery programme has recently been introduced by Mr Smith to give his patients a more comfortable and rapid return to function following joint replacement surgery. This has been achieved by the integration of less invasive

surgical techniques, multimodal anaesthesia and a carefully constructed team-working approach.

Mr Smith has a long-standing commitment to training, research and working towards the best possible outcomes for his patients. He is a member of the Welsh Orthopaedic Training Programme committee, and is the clinical lead across north Wales for the Rapid Recovery Programme.

Ongoing research and development are a large part of Mr Smith's practice. He is engaged in several long-term studies and acts in an advisory and consulting capacity on the development of joint replacements and instrumentation.

Mr Smith spends his spare time sailing and enjoying other watersports on the waters of north Wales with his young son.

GET IN TOUCH...

MR TONY SMITH

To make an appointment, call the Yale Hospital, Wrexham, on 01978 268051 (www.spirehealthcare.com/yale) or the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry, on 01691 664849 (www.rjah.nhs.uk). Alternatively, you can email jasper@spirehealthcare.com. For more information, visit www.mrtonysmith.co.uk

