

A New Way To Treat Knee Pain

(NAPSA)—A new procedure may help many of the millions of Americans who suffer from a sometimes crippling condition.

Osteoarthritis is a degenerative joint disease that often follows a history of injury or overuse of a joint. The condition can result in the deterioration of cartilage in the knee, causing bone to rub against bone. The friction causes symptoms such as stiffness, pain and eventual loss of motion.

A new Minimally Invasive Solution (MIS) procedure for what is known as the M/G Unicompartmental Knee System (Uni Knee) is helping to change the face of knee surgery.

The procedure lets surgeons replace only the damaged part of a patient's knee and leave the healthy portion intact.

The minimally invasive procedure involves an incision of only three inches. Rehabilitation time using the MIS procedure is an estimated five weeks for many patients, but may vary.

Total knee replacement surgery, for example, often leaves an eight to twelve inch scar and can require up to six months recovery time.

Medical experts say that the benefits of the procedure are numerous. "By offering this treatment option, it may be possible to limit a patient's hospital stay—in fact, a number of these procedures are being done on an outpatient



Partial knee replacement can be done via a minimally invasive procedure.

basis. Also, smaller incisions mean less scar tissue—that can help simplify the healing process," says Alfred J. Tria Jr., M.D. "The MIS procedure helps improve the quality of life of individuals by allowing them to regain many of the physical activities they have come to enjoy in their lives."

In addition, successful completion of the Uni Knee implantation may help delay or even prevent a more extensive knee replacement surgery.

Not every person is a candidate for the procedure. For more information consult your healthcare professional and visit www.pacewithlife.com or call 1-866-FIND-MIS.