

The Hip – What is keeping you awake?

Anticipating Future Needs



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I am a Professor of orthopaedic surgery at the University of Bologna (Italy), specializing in total hip, hip resurfacing and knee replacement for over 20 years. Last year I performed over 754 replacements, of which 96 were knees.

Since my residency at the Mayo clinic, I have noticed many changes regarding patient knowledge. Today, patients are much younger, more active and well versed in technologies. Their access to information creates a desire to be a part of the process in choosing what the best treatment is for them. This is one reason meetings like this are so important; to keep informed of surgical trends and new technologies.

What is truly innovative, is gathering hundreds of world known experts in the same room and sharing information about their practice and preferences; understanding what they are doing and why. This is a fantastic opportunity for the industry to take notes and be prepared for upcoming market demands. When we can balance surgical trends with personal experience and clinical evidence, we are able to improve our practice and anticipate future needs.

For example, with the debate between cemented and uncemented philosophies, the majority now choose uncemented even though scientific evidence shows that with elderly patients, cemented fixation is much more efficient. ..That's a paradox! How should we use this evidence? It's always good to know and learn from other surgeons' habits. **B**