

**Garden State Veterinary Specialists** is a multi-disciplinary referral only practice whose goal is to provide progressive, state-of-the-art veterinary care in the fields of surgery, internal medicine, cardiology, neurology, oncology, acupuncture, ophthalmology, dermatology, nuclear medicine and emergency/critical care. The support staff is a team of receptionists and animal health care technicians who understand the close bond that exists between a family and their pet. We are committed to making the referral experience one of personal service for the client and the referring veterinarian with specialized individualized care for the patient.

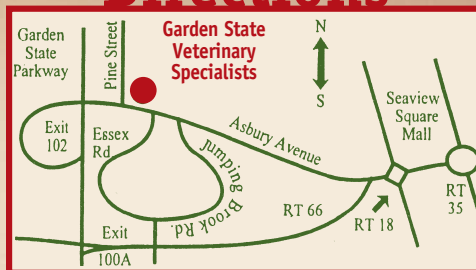


## Referral Policy

Patients treated at Garden State Veterinary Specialists must be referred by their veterinarian. The patient will only be treated for the condition for which they were referred; no routine procedures (i.e., vaccinations, prophylactic heartworm testing) are performed on any patients of the hospital.



## Directions



**GSVS is centrally located in Tinton Falls, New Jersey, approximately 1/2 mile east of the Garden State Parkway.**

### From Northern New Jersey:

Take the Garden State Parkway south (or the New Jersey Turnpike south to Exit 11 to the Garden State Parkway south). Continue on the GSP (either the local or express lanes) to Exit 102. After exiting the Parkway bear right off the exit ramp onto Asbury Avenue. Approximately 1/2 mile from the exit ramp make a left onto Pine Street. The Hospital will be directly in front of you.

### From Southern New Jersey:

Take the Garden State Parkway north to Exit 100A. Upon exiting the Parkway you will be on Route 66. Take Route 66 to the first light, make a left at the light (Jumping Brook Road). After the left turn, bear to left onto Essex Road. Take Essex Road to the end, then make a left onto Asbury Avenue. Make the next right, which will be Pine Street. The Hospital will be directly in front of you.

### From New York City:

Take the Holland or Lincoln Tunnel to the New Jersey Turnpike, south. Follow the Turnpike to Exit 11, Garden State Parkway south. Continue on the GSP (either the local or express lanes) to Exit 102. After exiting the parkway bear right off the exit ramp onto Asbury Avenue. Approximately 1/2 mile from the exit ramp make a left onto Pine Street. The Hospital will be directly in front of you.

### From Brooklyn, Long Island, Staten Island:

Take the Verrazano Bridge to the Staten Island Expressway. Follow the SI Expressway to the Outerbridge Crossing. After the Outerbridge Crossing take the Garden State Parkway south (either the local or express lanes) to Exit 102. After exiting the Parkway bear right off the exit ramp onto Asbury Avenue. Approximately 1/2 mile from the exit ramp make a left onto Pine Street. The Hospital will be directly in front of you.



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[www.gsvs.org](http://www.gsvs.org)  
[www.felinehyperthyroidism.com](http://www.felinehyperthyroidism.com)

# TOTAL HIP REPLACEMENT



*for the Treatment of  
Hip Dysplasia & Arthritis  
in Your Dog*



## The Surgery Department at Garden State Veterinary Specialists

consists of Board Certified Diplomates of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons. Our Surgery Department works together as a team with our other specialists to provide our patients with the very best patient care.

### What is Hip Dysplasia?

Hip Dysplasia is an abnormal development and growth of the hip joint. Both hips are usually affected, but only one hip may show symptoms. The onset of clinical signs may not occur in both hips simultaneously. Hip Dysplasia is manifested by varying degrees of laxity (looseness) of the muscles and ligaments around the hip joint with instability and malformation of the joint components. Arthritis is the long term consequence of hip joint looseness.

### What are the clinical signs of Hip Dysplasia?

The clinical signs of Hip Dysplasia are lameness and pain which can be evident as early as four to six months of age. The symptoms can initially be as subtle as:

- Stiffness in the morning
- Slowness in getting up
- Not wanting to exercise as long or as vigorously
- A change in stride of the back legs
- "Bunny Hopping"
- Wanting to sit down during walks or while eating
- Reluctance to stand up on the hind legs.

Sometimes the only observation is an "inactive" or laid back" puppy. The symptoms may not be present until a dog is middle-aged or older. Dogs showing signs of discomfort can be any age and of any size. However, large breed dogs are more commonly affected.



## Frequently Asked Questions

### Q What is a Total Hip Replacement?

A Total Hip Replacement (THR) is designed to eliminate the source of discomfort by replacing the arthritic hip joint with an artificial joint. Replacement of the hip joint is a state-of-the-art procedure, very similar to the procedure in humans. The arthritic femoral head and neck are removed and replaced with a metal implant made of cobalt chrome and titanium. The arthritic socket is removed and replaced with a plastic cup. Both components are held in place with sterile bone cement. The metal head and plastic cup fit and function like the original ball and socket joint providing pain-free, mechanically sound function.

### Q Why choose a Total Hip Replacement?

A Total Hip Replacement is performed as an optimal means of relieving pain, improving hip function and allowing your dog to return to an active lifestyle. The arthritic joint is replaced with the implant resulting in elimination of the pain of bone rubbing on bone in the arthritic joint. The decreased range of motion associated with the arthritic joint is corrected allowing a good range of hip motion.

### Q Is my dog a candidate for a Total Hip Replacement?

A If your dog is over 12 months of age and weighs more than 45 pounds and has clinical signs associated with hip arthritis or dysplasia, or has had a traumatic hip luxation, your pet is a potential candidate for a hip replacement. A thorough examination to rule out other orthopedic or neurologic problems is always an important part of the pre-operative examination.

### Q Are there alternative surgeries to Total Hip Replacement?

A Yes, a femoral head and neck osteotomy (i.e., removal of the ball part of the joint) can be performed as an alternative procedure. The ball part (femoral head) is removed allowing a "false-joint" to form. Eventually, new tissue fills in between the bones allowing support and function of the limb. This surgery has a variable success rate with 20-25% of owners reporting low grade persistence of limping or trouble jumping. The procedure is not as optimal as a hip replacement, however, results overall are satisfactory to



good.

### Q When should the surgery be performed?

A Surgery to replace the hip joint is recommended when pain or limping are present. Radiographs of the hips are performed to confirm the diagnosis of degenerative arthritis. Surgery is generally recommended if conservative therapy via pain medication is not adequate in relieving the degree of limping or pain associated with the arthritis.

### Q Should both hips receive a Total Hip Replacement?

A Only one hip can be done at a time. The most painful hip should be replaced first. If pain is present on both sides, both sides should be replaced. The interval between surgeries is at least three months, however, over 80% of dogs do not need a second surgery despite the presence of arthritis in the other hip.

### Q What do dogs go through to get a Total Hip Replacement?

A The surgery takes 90 to 120 minutes. They are under continuously monitored isoflurane general anesthesia. Vital parameters, such as heart rate, heart rhythm, tissue perfusion, respiratory rate and pattern, temperature and blood pressure are monitored. The surgery is performed with extensive precautions to prevent infection. Much attention is paid to preoperative preparation of the patient, instrument preparation, aseptic technique, and environment control in the operating room. Pain medication is administered preoperatively and maintained as long as needed. The patient is hospitalized with 24 hour patient care. Most dogs routinely support some weight immediately postoperatively. They are generally released from the hospital in the second postoperative day.

### Q What is the aftercare associated with the surgery?

A Exercise restriction (i.e., no running or jumping) must be followed for two months following the surgery to allow all tissues to heal around the implant. Vigorous activity is to be avoided during this time period.

### Q How do dogs feel with a Total Hip Replacement?

A Most dogs walk on their new hip immediately after surgery. Most pet owners report their dog's personality improves and that their dog feels great. Gradual return to normal function is allowed between 8 and 12 weeks after surgery. A long-term study found THR to be a very effective method of treating disabling conditions of the canine hip. The majority of dogs displayed marked improvement in walking, sitting, climbing stairs, standing, running, getting into the car, playing, and exercise following surgery. THR's have been performed in both pets and working dogs with equal