

The View is Worth the Climb

One SwiftPath surgeon and one CEO with a shared vision, a progressive surgical center, two years of hard work, and it has happened! Dr. Andrew Wickline and Geoffrey Smith, CEO of Apex Surgical Center have created the first outpatient joint replacement program in New York. On December 1, Dr. Wickline successfully executed the first total knee replacement procedure at the ASC using the SwiftPath Method. Dr. Wickline is the highest volume total knee and hip replacement surgeon in New York.



According to Smith, there were four main areas of focus in preparation for making outpatient joint replacement possible at Apex: payor negotiations; incorporating the SwiftPath model into the ASC; sourcing implants, equipment and instruments; and ASC team training and education.

“Alignment and leadership are extremely important,” Smith said. “There are multiple stakeholders both internally and externally. You must be able to get all of these people and organizations to willingly move in the same direction to achieve a goal that might not benefit everyone directly. **The surgeon leader must judiciously finesse, and sometimes force the stakeholders to take the necessary steps to accomplish same day total joints.** He or she also must be able to effectively, and if possible, passionately verbalize the vision; articulating the benefits, not only to the patients, but also to the healthcare system. If you are really successful, the entire team will embrace and understand this vision.”

Dr. Wickline expects to perform the center’s first same-day total hip replacement in January 2018.

Happy Holidays from SwiftPath

With ornaments, tinsel, laughter and cheer, the SwiftPath team celebrates the holidays and a fruitful year.

Thank you to all who have taken part in the SwiftPath journey.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!



The team playing a holiday game.

Pre-op PT: Get a Jump on Recovery

Physical therapy before joint replacement surgery, while it may seem unusual, is standard care for SwiftPath patients. Requiring patients to see a physical therapist before surgery empowers, engages and teaches patients everything they’ll need to know to have a successful postoperative experience. Patients learn to navigate assistive devices, like crutches and walkers, while patients themselves are evaluated.

Physical therapist and president Shannon O’Kelley, IRG Physical Therapy, says the goal is to get patients in the best shape possible before their operation.

“After surgery we want you to be able to move, and get back to the things you value,” said O’Kelley.

Pre-op PT allows patients to move straight into strength and function exercises after surgery, resulting in faster rehab and happier patients.



[View Shannon O’Kelly’s video on physical therapy](#)

SAVE THE DATE **Annual SwiftPath Surgeon Meeting**
Friday, June 15th, 2018 - Woodmark Hotel, Kirkland, WA