

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Honduras woman travels to Mobile for anterior hip replacement from local expert

New approach to hip replacement attracting patients from across the globe

MOBILE, Ala. (March 2013) – Anterior [hip](#) replacement surgery, a minimally invasive alternative approach to traditional total hip replacement that has gained popularity in the United States, is piquing the interest of patients around the world, including one woman who traveled more than 1,000 miles to undergo the surgery in Mobile.

The procedure provides patients with quicker recoveries, shorter hospital stays and less pain than a traditional hip replacement, because it uses minimally invasive techniques that do not disrupt the surrounding muscles and soft tissues. But this technique wasn't an option for 83-year-old Louise Metzgen, as none of the surgeons in her hometown of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, offered the procedure.

Requiring specialized equipment and advanced training, Metzgen's son, Carlos, also an orthopaedic surgeon, knew he would need the help of friends in Mobile to have this surgery performed on his mother. Carlos had formed friendships with a group of surgeons from The Orthopaedic Group, P.C., while working with them during one their orthopaedic-related mission trips to his native country.

“Carlos knew his mother was a perfect candidate for an anterior hip replacement because of the condition of her hip and her desire to maintain an active lifestyle,” explains [Dr. Milton A. Wallace, Jr.](#), the hip surgeon at [The Orthopaedic Group, P.C.](#) who performed her procedure at Mobile Infirmary in early March. “With this procedure, she will have a great reduction in hip pain, plus the ability to return to activity much sooner than she would have with a traditional procedure.”

It's a difference Metzgen was willing to travel more than 1,000 miles to experience. Following her successful surgery, she spent time recovering in both Mobile and College Station, Texas, where her other son lives, before returning to Honduras.

For more information on anterior hip replacement, contact the joint replacement doctors at The Orthopaedic Group, P.C., by calling (251) 450-2746.

The Orthopaedic Group, P.C., is the largest private orthopaedic practice in the area. With 10 locations throughout Alabama, The Orthopaedic Group, P.C., has been recognized as the Gulf Coast's leader in orthopaedic care for more than 40 years. The practice's fellowship-trained doctors offer specialized care in the following areas: shoulder, hand and upper extremity, spine, hip, knee, foot and ankle and sports medicine. The Orthopaedic Group, P.C., proudly serves as team doctors for the University of Mobile, Spring Hill College and numerous local high schools. The practice's sports medicine experts also serve athletes who participate in the GoDaddy.com Bowl and Senior Bowl. For more information regarding the practice, visit www.TheOrthoGroup.com.