

Beacon Orthopedic Collaborative Care Program

2020-2021 Annual Report





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Dear colleagues,

This is our second annual report of the Beacon Orthopedic Collaborative Care Program. The collaboration includes surgeons from Beacon Bone & Joint Specialists and Orthopedic & Sports Medicine Center of Northern Indiana, Inc. We are excited to share with you a summary of the outstanding developments, programs and highlights of the 2020-2021 performance period. During the last few years, this program has developed into a high-performing program providing standardized orthopedic care related to total joint replacements, hip fracture and orthopedic trauma care across Beacon Health System.

The goal of our program has always been about improving both quality and patient experience while reducing cost of care. Last year, we set and achieved three goals:

- 1. Reduced care variation among providers by implementing evidence-based care with the use of fascia iliaca blocks (a local anesthetic) to reduce pain for hip fracture patients.**
- 2. Incorporated robotic surgery with cutting-edge technology (ROSA robotic system) for knee replacement surgery.**
- 3. Earned Advanced Certification for Total Joint Replacement programs by The Joint Commission for both Elkhart General Hospital and Memorial Hospital.**

While you will see significant improvement last year in a number of key quality initiatives, we cannot underestimate the impact that COVID-19 had on disrupting the care of all patients at the hospital level. Because of bed shortages, elective procedures at times were put on hold, resulting in our decreased volumes and shifting from what was once an overnight procedure for total joint replacement to discharging most patients the same day of surgery. Our teams were nimble and adjusted accordingly to meet the needs of our patients, families and communities.





Beacon Orthopedic Collaborative Care Program members:

Joel Post, DO

Orthopedic Oncology/Orthopedic Surgery, Beacon Medical Group, Medical Director of the Beacon Orthopedic Collaborative Care Program

Willis Stevenson, MD

Orthopedic Sports Medicine Surgery, Orthopedic & Sports Medicine Center, Medical Director of the Beacon Orthopedic Collaborative Care Program

Bryan Boyer, MD

Orthopedic Trauma Surgery, Beacon Medical Group

Joseph Caldwell, MD

Orthopedic Spine Surgery, Orthopedic & Sports Medicine Center

David Cutcliffe, MD

Orthopedic Hand Surgery, Orthopedic & Sports Medicine Center

Gregg Ebersole, MD

Orthopedic Surgery, Beacon Medical Group

Craig Erikson, MD

Orthopedic Surgery, Orthopedic & Sports Medicine Center

Mark Klaassen, MD

Orthopedic Surgery, Orthopedic & Sports Medicine Center

Christiaan Mamczak, DO

Orthopedic Surgery/Orthopedic Trauma Surgery, Beacon Medical Group

David Pope, MD

Orthopedic Hand Surgery, Orthopedic & Sports Medicine Center

J. Mark Schramm, MD

Orthopedic Hand Surgery, Orthopedic & Sports Medicine Center

J. Benjamin Smucker, MD

Orthopedic Sports Medicine Surgery, Orthopedic & Sports Medicine Center

Jeffrey Sonntag, DO

Orthopedic Shoulder and Elbow Surgery, Orthopedic & Sports Medicine Center

Scott Trumble, MD

Orthopedic Foot and Ankle Surgery, Orthopedic & Sports Medicine Center

Jared Vogler, DO

Orthopedic Surgery/Shoulder and Elbow Orthopedic Surgery, Beacon Medical Group



Sam El-Dalati, MD, ABTS, MBA

Chief Clinical Officer,
Beacon Health System

I'm proud of the work and outcomes that this group of dedicated providers has helped Beacon Health System achieve for the orthopedic service line. Our focus is on improving the quality of patient care, and I'm pleased to share that one hundred percent of the performance metrics showed positive trending between 2020 and 2021. We identified \$291,000 in cost savings for the health system as a result of total knee and total hip implant cost-reduction efforts. Memorial's Comprehensive Care for Joint Replacement model (CJR) Bundle Payment program continues to perform well in its last year of the CMS program, resulting in reconciliation payment of \$516,550. Patient satisfaction remains strong at 4.9 on a 5.0 scale for our total joint replacement nursing units who care for that patient population.



Beacon hospitals recognized for superior total hip and total knee replacement



Elkhart General Hospital



Memorial Hospital of South Bend



Elkhart General Hospital and Memorial Hospital of South Bend earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval® for Advanced Total Hip and Total Knee Replacement Accreditation, fulfilling one of Beacon Orthopedic Collaborative Care's most important goals last year.

After rigorous, unannounced onsite reviews, Beacon met standards including supporting the continuity of care, optimizing patients' health condition prior to surgery and

following current American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) clinical practice guidelines.

This symbol of quality reflects Beacon's commitment to providing outstanding care to all members of our community. The award means patients know they are getting the highest quality and and safest care available so they can recover faster and get back to what they enjoy sooner.

Beacon Health System serves more than 42,000 patients annually at Elkhart General Hospital and Memorial Hospital.

Highlights:



Increase in
on-time surgical starts
for orthopedic cases



Patient satisfaction scores of
4.9 and higher
on total joint units

Quality metrics 2020-2021

Improving key performance



- 16 quality and operational metrics with 100 percent improvement over 2019.
- Four cost-saving initiatives related to total joint replacements: \$291,164 savings.

Total Joints-Hips/Knees	2020	2021
Increase in digital interfacing with total joint patients using CareSense*	0%	81%
Obtain Gold Seal of Approval® for Advanced Total Hip and Total Knee Replacement Accreditation from The Joint Commission, EGH & MHSB	n/a	Yes
Increase in patient satisfaction on total joint units	4.8	4.9

Hip Fracture

Increase use of fascia iliaca blocks for hip fracture patients to reduce pain	0%	75%
Decrease hip fracture patient mortality rate	3%	1.2%

Operational Metrics

Increase in pre-operative communications between surgeon offices and pre-surgical areas	68%	88%
Increase in on-time surgical starts for orthopedic cases	56%	78%

*CareSense sends informational videos and satisfaction surveys to patients through their choice of email, text or an app.

COVID-19 led to a decrease in elective procedures. As we move into 2022, we aim to educate patients and increase volumes on elective procedures once again.

	2019	2020
Total Hip/Knee Replacements	1,010	907
Total Hip Fractures	297	238
Total ROSA procedures	N/A	28



Decreased time of admission
to surgery for hip fracture patients



Increase in digital interfacing with total joint patients
using CareSense*





I was interested in
outside-the-box thinking
and different therapies.
- Martin

Martin — keeping life moving after degenerative knee pain and osteoarthritis

Ten years ago, Martin had knee replacement surgery, an ordeal that required him to take four months off from work. This year, at age 71, Martin needed a knee replacement for his other knee.

“I was interested in outside-the-box thinking and different therapies,” Martin explains.

This time he was back in action and walking around after just four weeks, virtually pain-free. And it was thanks to the ROSA Knee System (Robotic Surgical Assistant), the team at Beacon and his commitment to recovery. ROSA assists surgeons at Memorial Hospital and Elkhart General Hospital by tailoring total knee replacement surgery to the patient’s needs. The minimally invasive procedure can mean less time in the hospital, reduced pain and discomfort and less scarring.

And while the procedure made a world of difference for Martin, he’s quick to credit the team at Beacon and the level of care he received for how well he’s doing. “Dr. Ebersole hit a home run with ROSA. He and his team are the most phenomenal group I’ve ever seen.”

Read more about Martin’s story at
beaconhealthsystem.org/martin.





Increase patients' movement after surgery, which reduces blood clots and speeds patient recovery.

Reaching higher in 2022

Although the Beacon Orthopedic Collaborative Care Program reached important milestones last year, we continue striving to improve care even more for our patients as we move forward. In 2022, we plan to:

- Continue to reduce care variations.
- Continue to expand our new CareSense digital platform to measure patient satisfaction with the Total Joint Replacement program.
- Continue to optimize pre-surgery initiatives such as helping diabetic patients to better control their HA1C levels, which creates fewer post-surgical complications and promotes faster recovery and better outcomes.
- Develop and implement enhanced recovery after surgery (ERAS) protocols such as helping patients improve their nutrition and fluid management and diabetic patients improve their HA1C levels.
- Continue to focus on standardizing physicians' admission and after-surgery order sets for treatment and care of hip-fracture patients to increase efficiency and achieve more consistent outcomes for patients.

- Increase use of tranexamic acid (TXA), a medication that reduces bleeding and lessens the need for transfusions during surgery, helping patients recover more quickly.
- Increase patients' movement after surgery, which reduces blood clots and speeds patient recovery.
- Continue efforts to reduce cost of care related to hip and knee replacements as well as hip fractures by implementing a recycle/refurbish program for non-implantable surgical supplies.

Our Beacon Orthopedic Collaborative Care Program team and every dedicated Beacon associate is committed to clinical excellence and continuous improvement. We look forward to achieving these goals as we continue to provide the best orthopedic care possible to our community.

Committed to improving care for patients in 2022 and beyond.

