

## 56-YR-OLD UNDERGOES RARE ROBOTIC KNEE REPLACEMENT SURGERY IN CITY

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Leela Patil has recovered from surgery

***Lokmanya Hospital doc says damaged parts replaced to absolute perfection***

Nigdi's Lokmanya Hospital performed the rare robotic-assisted unicondylar knee replacement surgery on a 56-year-old woman, who was suffering severe pain while walking. The patient, Leela Patil, had gap in her knee joints. On December 21, 2016, she underwent knife.

“This technology enables the surgeon to replace only the damaged part of the knee to absolute perfection, saving all the other normal structures of the joint, thus preventing the need of a total joint replacement,” explained Dr Narendra Vaidya, managing director and chief joint

replacement surgeon at the hospital.

Osteoarthritic degeneration and subsequent knee pain among elderly is a common problem. Dr Vaidya continued, “Beyond a certain age, medicines, physiotherapy and other arthroscopic interventions are not useful in the treatment of arthritis and such patients require total knee replacement as a definitive treatment. Robotic- assisted surgery offers the patient a huge advantage of immediate recovery.”

The patients treated with this technology can get full movement, including sitting cross legged and squatting.

“Around a year-and-a-half ago, Leela underwent knife for a knee surgery in her right leg. At that time, there was a total knee replacement done. However, the pain lasted quite long and she became fully mobile only after a year. This time, for the left leg, however with the new technology, she has been able to start walking almost in two days' time,” informed Baliram Patil, Leela's husband and a businessman based in Badlapur.

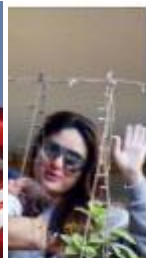
When contacted, Dr Mahesh Kulkarni, an orthopedic surgeon attached to the Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital, added, “This technology must have been used for the first time in Pune. Although there are cases of partial knee replacement which are done carefully to protect other structures of the joint from getting damaged by the surgeons.”

— PMB

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