



The Exeter Hip

The Exeter Hip Replacement was designed by Professor Robin Ling of the Princess Elizabeth Orthopaedic Hospital, Exeter and Dr Clive Lee of the University of Exeter. It was invented as a result of early failures that were occurring in hip replacements being performed at that time.

The Exeter Hip is currently the most widely and commonly used cemented hip replacement in the world, with over 40 years of clinical results, continuing to be at the forefront of technology and innovation. The Exeter Hip is suitable for patients of all ages. It is also a hugely successful treatment, with over 90% of patients being totally pain-free following surgery. Success rates, with the endpoint being loosening of the socket or stem, are better than 95% at 15 years and many patients have now had their Exeter Hip Replacement in position for over 30 years.

First used in 1970, the Exeter hip revolutionised hip replacement operations with a 'metal on plastic' cemented hip and is now the most frequently used cemented hip replacement in the world, with over 1 million operations undertaken by the end of 2010. Approximately 90,000 hips are now used each year – that's the equivalent of the adult population of Exeter being given a new spring in their step every 12 months.

According to Dr Clive Lee "We were proud to name the hip after Exeter as so many people in the University and the hospital were instrumental in its development. We had significant technical and other support from the University's former department of Engineering Science.... Still the biggest pleasure for me is when people who have had replacement hips come up to me and thank me for changing their lives."

There have been many advances in total hip replacement since 1970 but the basic philosophy and principle of The Exeter Hip remain unchanged. New bearing technologies and improvements in manufacturing have been applied to The Exeter Hip since its inception so it now has the unique position of being at the forefront of technology and innovation, whilst retaining long-term clinical history.

