

# Up and Walking the Same Day

## Patient Enjoys Speedy Recovery from Hip Replacement Surgery

Body surfing is an exciting sport that requires no special equipment or experience—but it’s also potentially dangerous. Just ask Lebran “Lee” Warrick, a 57-year-old, whose encounter last year with a powerful wave left him needing a hip replacement.

“I caught an 8’-10’ wave and was too high up when it slammed me to the ocean floor,” he said. “Doctors said that I was extremely lucky—just a few inches less could have crashed me head first, possibly snapping my neck and killing me. I landed on my left side, tearing up my shoulder, hip and knee.”

Initially, Lee thought he could recover on his own; but after three months, he could barely bend over to put on his socks, let alone climb stairs on his construction job site. It was when he became dependent on a walker to get around that he realized he finally needed to go see someone regarding his hip.

After seeing a few other doctors, Lee was referred to Andrew Luu MD, a PIH Health Orthopedic Surgeon, who suggested he undergo a hip replacement for his severe post-traumatic hip arthritis. Lee agreed and had the surgery in early December 2019.

“Lee was a perfect candidate for an anterior hip replacement given how young and active he is,” said Dr. Luu. “With this type of surgery, patients typically have less damage to major muscles, experience less post-operative pain, and have a quicker recovery with less rehab restrictions.”

In fact, Lee was amazed at how fast the recovery actually was.

“I thought Dr. Luu was crazy when he said I would be walking the same day after surgery—but it was true,” said Lee. “Just a few hours after surgery, a therapist helped me take a walk; and after going home, I only used a walker for eight days, and a cane for another seven days. I was able to climb a ladder to hang Christmas lights, go bowling, and shoot baskets with my granddaughter before I knew it.”

“I can’t say enough about the professionalism of Dr. Luu and the staff at PIH Health,” he said. “Everyone that was involved in my care made me feel like I truly mattered, especially Dr. Luu, and I would definitely refer anyone to the PIH Health family.”



To learn more, visit [PIHHealth.org/Ortho](https://PIHHealth.org/Ortho), or for an appointment, call **562.789.5452**.

