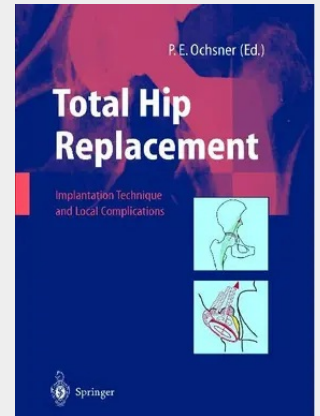


Total Hip Replacement

Implantation Technique and Local Complications

"Total Hip Replacement" by Peter Ochsner and his colleagues is a unique, exemplary, instructive and valuable addition to the world of surgery. Shortly after taking charge of the newly established department for orthopaedic surgery in Liestal in June 1984, the new medical director, Peter E. Ochsner, decided to document all total hip replacement operations prospectively and then follow these up regularly over a minimum period of 10 years. The former director of the surgical clinic, Professor Hans Willenegger, had previously established a documentation secretariat. The documentation system selected by Peter Ochsner was based on the code forms A (first hospital stay) B (revision procedure) and C (follow-up) which were developed in 1984 by the MEM Institute for Documentation in Berne, each form incorporating over 400 check boxes. The forms are supplemented by the radiograph card, with affixed copies of the most important images, and the preoperative plans. New forms revised by IDES ("International Documentation and Evaluation System") and accepted by SICOT were used from 1991. With the application of a little discipline, consistent completion of the A form did not prove to be a problem, provided that every operator was prepared to write the surgical report immediately after the procedure. This task took up little more than 5 minutes of the surgeon's time. Follow-up planning, however, proved rather more difficult according to Peter Ochsner, although it still proved possible to invite and follow-up over 96% of operated patients who were still living.

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