

# ASC Total Joint Bundled Payment Program Achieving Triple Aim



St. Cloud Surgical Center has long been an innovator. Its total joint replacement program, developed with SCA, has led to higher quality, lower costs and a streamlined approach to healthcare: a bundled payment that simplifies the process of surgery and recovery.

**98%** go home same day

**1%** infection rate

**30%** lower cost than hospital

St. Cloud Surgical Center (SCSC), 90 minutes northwest of Minneapolis, is a pioneer in outpatient surgery. Today, in partnership with Surgical Care Affiliates (SCA), SCSC continues to innovate.

In 2015 SCSC started conducting outpatient total knee and total hip replacements using robotics. Since starting the program, SCSC has performed more than 1,150 total joint replacements with 95% patient satisfaction.

SCA developed a bundled payment with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota to create a seamless continuum of care, from surgery to physical therapy—and all with just one bill. The single payment covers the surgeon's fee, anesthesia and facility charges, post-surgical physical

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DARCI NAGORSKI, ADMINISTRATOR, ST. CLOUD SURGICAL CENTER

therapy, home health care, etc. “It’s one payment for the procedure and all the services a patient might need related to the surgery within 90 days,” says Marie Edler, MPH, Vice President, Payer Engagement and Advocacy at SCA.

According to Darci Nagorski, Administrator for the center, SCA manages the entire process, paying the anesthesiologist, physician and physical therapist, while ensuring that quality remains high. “We’re leading the effort to keep costs down.

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Says Dr. Nessler: “The program is an excellent way to offer my patients and the insurers a cost effective solution to total joint replacement that appropriately shifts the financial incentives to us as care givers to make the optimal clinical decisions for our patients.”