



No pain, only gain

An active realtor is back out showing houses, thanks to a same-day hip replacement

Tom Laresca has always been athletic. As a young man, he played both football and baseball, and even tried out for the New York Mets and Yankees. “I threw my body around all over the field,” he said, adding that it took quite a beating over the years.

Still active at 59, Mr. Laresca began to experience severe pain in his left hip. The pain was growing progressively worse, and began to impact his real estate practice.

“Most of my day is spent getting in and out of the car, going up and down stairs and doing a decent amount of walking,” he said. “But I was in tremendous pain. Every step hurt.”

The pain became so severe that Mr. Laresca was having trouble sleeping at night. That’s when a friend at church recommended that he go see Jules David Hip-Flores, MD, an

orthopedic surgeon at Staten Island University Hospital (SIUH).

Dr. Hip-Flores explained that Mr. Laresca had arthritis in his hip — the cartilage in the joint had worn down, leaving the bones to rub against one another. After a brief discussion, Dr. Hip-Flores told him he would be a good candidate for a total hip replacement.

“Mr. Laresca is a little younger than a traditional total hip replacement patient, but he was having a lot of difficulty with his arthritic hip,” Dr. Hip-Flores said. “Other than that, he’s a very active, healthy man. My goal with the surgery was to give him back the same mobility

in his hip that he had when he was 30 years old.”

Mr. Laresca had his right hip replaced a few years earlier by a different surgeon in Manhattan, so he was expecting to have a lot of pain after his procedure. But when he woke up after his hip replacement with Dr. Hip-Flores, he said he felt great.

“I can’t say my pain was ever more than a one [out of 10],” he said. “The surgery was a piece of cake.”

He was doing so well, in fact, that he was able to go home the same day. Later that night, Mr. Laresca was walking around his house without a cane, walker — or pain. And just one week after surgery, he was back to work showing houses. Now, he’s back to riding his bike and looking forward to playing ball with his son.

Mr. Laresca is grateful to Dr. Hip-Flores and his team, who he said treated him like family. “My experience with Dr. Hip-Flores was excellent. It felt like he and his staff were invested in me getting better,” he said.



Scan the QR code to watch a video about Mr. Laresca’s recovery from total hip replacement surgery.