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IS MINIMALLY INVASIVE HIP SURGERY NEW? ONLY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NOT DONE IT BEFORE.

Robert B. Zann, M.D.

Recently, I have been bombarded by questions from patients regarding the "new **minimally invasive** surgery". Patients have brought in articles from various newspapers and magazines regarding the new surgical procedure. The new surgical procedure is being hyped by some as a revolutionary procedure which provides the patient with minimal pain, a shorter hospitalization, and better outcomes. Others have been cautious to report that statistics have not been clear in establishing the relative advantages of **minimally invasive** surgery compared to standard surgical techniques and **total hip** arthroplasty.

Let's start with the facts. Twenty years ago, when I was a Fellow at the University of Southern California, I had as my professors, three then-famous,