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According to Dugas, "Dr. Reiss took the time to explain everything to me fully. He showed me all of my x-rays, explained what he planned to do and made sure that I knew exactly what I was in for."

"He was wonderful," Siok recalled, "He was so patient and thorough, that I tell everyone to go see him!"

What makes this procedure so different from traditional hip replacement is the bone-conserving approach. Using this procedure, Dr. Reiss is able to preserve more of his patient's natural bone, which is better for structure and

stability. Dr. Reiss covers the joint's surfaces with a metal implant — similar to how a dentist would cap a tooth. By preserving natural bone, the risk of joint dislocation and inaccurate leg length after the surgery is reduced. Additionally, this procedure has the potential to last longer than traditional hip implants.

According to Siok and Dugas, joint replacement surgery is certainly not fun, but they are both very pleased with their results. They both emphasized the importance of getting up and walking as soon after their surgeries as they could.

"I'm so competitive, there was a man down

the hall from me in the hospital who didn't want to get up when the therapists wanted him to," explained Dugas. "I said, 'Come on, we can do this!' and we did." After all, there were idle tennis racquets and balls waiting for her return.

She's come a long way since then.

"People can not believe it when I tell them I had hip surgery," Dugas said. "Especially, my tennis opponents!"

For Siok, who is not only an avid tennis player, but has also been a dancer all her life, "I can kick higher now with my 'fixed' leg than I can with my 'normal' leg!"

That's great news for anyone who may be having problems similar

to those that Dugas and Siok experienced. That's not-so-great news for their opponents on the court.

For more information about Dr. Jason Reiss, Birmingham Hip Resurfacing or Fawcett Memorial Hospital's Spine &

Orthopedic Center, please call 941-624-4441 or visit www.FawcettHospital.com or www.charlotte-orthopaedics.com.



Photo provided

Dr. Jason Reiss explains the hip resurfacing technique called Birmingham Hip Resurfacing during a recent lecture.