

MIDLAND NEWS

Wheelchair woman back on her feet after surgery

A 40-year-old Midland woman was walking again last night after an unprecedented series of operations to free her from needing the wheelchair to which she had been confined for two years.

Doctors at the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital, Northfield, Birmingham, gave Mrs Jaswant Kaur a new elbow, a new hip and two new knees, as well as performing a difficult operation on a foot.

Mrs Kaur was wheelchair-bound by rheumatoid arthritis.

Yesterday, after ten weeks in hospital, she was ready to walk out of it, and return to her home in Marriott Road, Smethwick.

She said: "It's fantastic after 2½ years in a wheelchair. I am very grateful for all the hard work that the hospital staff have done in getting me well again."

Mrs Kaur, who has two teenage children, was given artificial joints made of chrome cobalt and plastic, and titanium and plastic.

Mr Derek McMinn, a consultant surgeon, said of her case: "We do not usually get them quite as bad as that."

"We were very concerned we would never get her on her feet again, but she did it in record time. Most patients only have one or two joints replaced."

Mrs Kaur would soon be able to discard her hospital crutches.

"She will still suffer from arthritis, but her new joints will not be affected," said Mr McMinn.



Mrs Jaswant Kaur, out of a wheelchair after two years, with Mr Derek McMinn, consultant surgeon, and Miss Pat Matharu, a nurse.