A meta-analysis of randomized controlled clinical trials, and a randomized long-term follow-up study for displaced femoral neck fractures in the elderly, total hip replacement provided better hip function and significantly fewer reoperations compared with internal fixation without increasing mortality.[1,2]

Another systematic review of the literature including randomized controlled trials comparing all types of total hip arthroplasty to hemiarthroplasty showed that total hip arthroplasty for displaced femoral neck fractures in the fit elderly might lead to higher patient-based outcomes; however, with a higher dislocation rate compared to hemiarthroplasty.[3]

Two recent meta-analyses of randomized controlled trials were conducted to establish whether total hip arthroplasty was associated with a lower rate of reoperations, mortality, complications, and better function compared to hemiarthroplasty. These meta-analyses showed that patients with displaced femoral neck fractures might benefit from total hip arthroplasty with a lower reoperation rate and higher functional scores. However hemiarthroplasty yielded a lower incidence of postoperative dislocation.[4,5]

The author’s choice is the same; total hip arthroplasty is a valuable treatment option for healthy elderly with hip fracture. However, patients who are disabled or institutionalized may benefit from hemiarthroplasty.[6]

REFERENCES