

VERIFIED CHINA CARE

Hip & Knee Replacement in China 2026 Cost Guide

Real published price ranges at JCI-accredited hospitals — what "all-in" actually means, what drives the price up or down, and how to get a written line-item quote before you commit a single dollar.

✓ Published price bands

✓ JCI-accredited hospitals

✓ Escrowed payment

Prepared by Team VCC · verifiedchinacare.com
care@verifiedchinacare.com · +1 302 217 0438

This guide summarizes public pricing and regulatory information. It is educational, not medical advice. Always consult a licensed physician about your specific case. Figures verified September 2026; prices move with implant tier and hospital.

THE NUMBERS

What joint replacement costs in China vs the US

Typical all-in ranges from JCI-accredited partner hospitals. "All-in" = surgeon, implant, anaesthesia, hospital stay, nursing, physiotherapy and coordination — not just the surgery fee.

Procedure	Typical US price	China all-in	Savings vs US
Total knee replacement	\$30,000–\$50,000	\$8,000–\$15,000	70–73%
Robotic-assisted TKR	\$35,000–\$60,000	\$10,000–\$18,000	70–71%
Unicompartmental (partial) knee	\$25,000–\$40,000	\$7,000–\$12,000	70–72%
Total hip replacement	\$30,000–\$40,000	\$8,000–\$12,000	~70%

Savings bands are computed like-for-like (China low vs US low, China high vs US high). Comparing the cheapest China quote against the most expensive US quote produces a wider number, but it is not a like-for-like comparison and we do not publish it.

Why China is cheaper — and it is not a quality shortcut

The gap is implant and device procurement, surgeon volume, and facility overhead — not clinical standards. The highest-volume joint replacement centres in China perform more arthroplasties per surgeon per year than most Western hospitals, and several hold JCI accreditation with international patient departments.

The single biggest price variable: implant tier

Your implant choice can move a knee replacement by several thousand dollars on its own. Ask for the implant brand and model *in writing* — a quote that names no implant is not comparable to one that does.

READ THE FINE PRINT

What "all-in" must include

Most disappointing medical-travel experiences trace back to one thing: a headline price that was never all-in. Before you compare any two quotes, confirm both cover every line below.

Line item	Why it matters
Surgeon & surgical team fees	Seniority drives cost; confirm the operating surgeon, not just the department.
The implant itself	The largest single variable. Named brand and model, or the quote is not comparable.
Anaesthesia	Spinal vs general changes both risk profile and price.
Hospital stay & nursing	Per-night cost is where "from" prices quietly exclude days.
Physiotherapy	Often excluded. Joint replacement outcomes depend on rehab, not just the operation.
Pre-op workup & imaging	Bloods, ECG, X-ray; sometimes CT for alignment planning.
Follow-up & remote review	Who reviews your wound and imaging after you fly home?
Coordination & interpretation	Medical interpreter, airport transfer, appointment scheduling.

Commonly excluded add-ons

Bone grafting and sinus procedures (knee), revision components, extended ICU, and private-room upgrades. If your imaging suggests any of these, get them priced *before* you commit rather than after you arrive.

WHERE AND WHETHER

Hospitals and eligibility

The centres

Joint replacement in China concentrates in a small number of high-volume, designated orthopaedic centres — including the national orthopaedic centre in Beijing, top-ranked orthopaedic departments in Shanghai, and West China Hospital in Chengdu — alongside the JCI-accredited hospitals with dedicated international patient departments that we profile on our site.

Who is typically a candidate

- Advanced osteoarthritis or joint degeneration where conservative treatment no longer controls pain
- Avascular necrosis of the femoral head
- Post-traumatic arthritis or prior joint injury
- Rheumatoid or inflammatory arthritis with joint destruction
- Failed previous joint replacement requiring revision

What can rule a case out

- Active systemic or joint infection
- Uncontrolled cardiac, pulmonary or metabolic disease that makes anaesthesia unsafe for you
- Insufficient bone stock for the planned implant without an agreed grafting plan
- Unrealistic expectations about range of motion, sporting return, or longevity

Be sceptical of any quote given without your imaging

Implant tier, bone quality and alignment all change the price. A hospital that quotes you a firm number before seeing your X-rays is guessing — and the guess is usually the low one.

HOW IT WORKS

From X-ray to walking

Stage	What happens	Typical duration
1. Free review	Send your diagnosis and imaging. We shortlist suitable hospitals and return a line-item quote.	1 business day
2. Hospital confirmation	The hospital's orthopaedic team reviews your films and confirms candidacy and implant options.	2–5 days
3. Travel & arrival	Medical visa invitation letter, appointment scheduling, airport transfer.	1–3 weeks
4. Surgery	Pre-op workup, then the procedure. Most patients are mobilised within a day.	—
5. In-patient recovery	Supervised mobilisation begins in hospital with physiotherapy.	4–7 days
6. Rehabilitation	Outpatient or residential physiotherapy. How much you include is your choice and changes your total cost.	Your call
7. Follow-up	Wound check and remote imaging review once you are home.	6 weeks

Escrowed payment

Funds are held and released against agreed milestones rather than handed over up front. You should never be asked to wire a hospital deposit directly to an individual.

NEXT STEP

Get your own written quote

Send us your diagnosis and imaging and we will shortlist suitable hospitals and return a transparent, line-item quote you can compare directly against any Western quote. No obligation, no pressure.

What to send

- Recent X-rays (and CT or MRI if you have them)
- Your diagnosis, or the clinical summary from your orthopaedic surgeon
- Which joint, and whether you have had prior surgery on it
- Your country of residence and approximate travel dates
- Any significant medical history relevant to anaesthesia

Five questions worth asking every provider

- Which implant brand and model, exactly?
- Is physiotherapy included, and for how many sessions?
- What is the revision rate at this hospital for this procedure?
- Who is the named operating surgeon, and how many do they perform per year?
- What happens — and who pays — if there is a complication after I fly home?

Verified China Care

Email: care@verifiedchinacare.com

Web: verifiedchinacare.com

WhatsApp / phone: [+1 302 217 0438](https://wa.me/3022170438)

This guide summarizes public pricing and regulatory information and is educational, not medical advice. Price bands are published ranges from JCI-accredited hospitals, verified September 2026, and move with implant tier, surgeon and hospital. Always consult a licensed physician about your specific case.