

Open Heart Surgery - On or Off Pump?



Dr. David J. Perkowski will discuss On/Off Pump Surgery. Dr. Perkowski is Director of Cardiac Surgery at Saddleback Memorial Medical Center and on the staff at Mission Hospital. He performed the first off pump coronary artery bypass surgery or “beating heart” surgery at Saddleback Memorial. When his patient was too weak to tolerate having her heart stopped, the two of them had a very open and frank conversation. Together they made a decision...they would try a novel approach, one that utilizes unique protocols and techniques and doesn't subject the patient to the heart lung machine.

Since then, Dr. Perkowski has performed more than 1500 such surgeries. He has proven that the procedure is safe. And beyond that, he has demonstrated that it results in fewer infections, strokes, excessive blood usage and better overall results.