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PROMs: The first pilot study of the Italian Arthroplasty Registry performed in the Autonomous Province of Trento

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Introduction

Arthroplasty registries are useful to evaluate safety of implanted devices by measuring survivorship as main outcome. However, in the last decades, many studies were conducted worldwide to assess the efficacy of joint prostheses in terms of restoring functionality and relief of pain, by measuring the change in the patients' quality of life via Patients Reported Outcome Measures. In this work, the Italian Arthroplasty Registry follows this patient-oriented view, producing a multi-center study based on the administration of the Hip disability and Osteoarthritis Outcome Score (HOOS) questionnaire aimed to compare pre- and post-operative patients' quality of life.

Materials and Methods

The HOOS questionnaire was administrated to 43 patients with osteoarthritis, from 6 hospitals in the Autonomous Province of Trento, before and after their elective hip replacement. Five domains of HOOS were considered: Symptoms, Pain, daily activities, Sport and Quality of Life. Comparisons between pre- and post-intervention average and median scores in the 5 domains were conducted by t-tests and boxplot analysis. Stratification by sex, age class (<65, 65-74, > 74) and type of hospital (public, private) was taken into account.

Results

Statistically significant improvements were observed for all the considered domains of the HOOS, excluding the Sport domain, for which the score decreased on average. Those same significant evidences are confirmed for all the domains when stratifying by sex and age.

Discussion

The study confirmed the well-known effectiveness of hip replacement in treating osteoarthritis even in this regional context. Further investigations are needed, with larger sample sizes, to better understand the issues detected in sport domain analysis.

This study was conducted by the Provincial Agency for Health Services of the Autonomous Province of Trento, was coordinated by the Italian Arthroplasty Registry at the Italian National Institute of Health and was supported by the General Directorate of Medical Devices and the Pharmaceutical Service at the Ministry of Health