Reviewer’s report

Title: The influence of preoperative determinants on quality of life, functioning and pain after total knee and hip replacement: a pooled analysis of Dutch cohorts

Version: 1 Date: 06 Feb 2018

Reviewer: Sten Rasmussen

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review this manuscript.

This is well performed and conducted analysis of 20 cohorts of osteoarthritis patients to determine the association of PROM and other predictors for outcome after hip or knee replacement. The authors introduce a standardized functioning score to evaluate the association between preoperative PROM and post-operative PROM. The results and conclusion strengthen the importance of a careful preoperative evaluation and planning when performing joint replacement for OA. The study adds important for the future treatment.

I have a few comments:

1. The abstract Background need a minor revision. The two first sentences are not easy to read. The second may improve if divided into two sentences.
2. Line 79-81: consider a reference after "....compared to primary surgery."
3. Standardization line 131-132. Comment: They questionnaires (PROMS) are all composite scores except pain on VAS. It means that several different patients can have equal scores, even though they are different. It may explain a part of the differences in the literature regarding the relation of pre-OP PROM on outcome. There may also be cultural differences between countries in how questionnaires are answered. These weaknesses of the questionnaires may also influence the results of this study.
4. Line 135: A short description of how the experts rated the questionnaires is needed.
5. Line 162: Is it the mean score at each time point? Please explain!
6. Line 200: Comment: When I squared =0, it may be due to a too small sample and not necessary a measure of low heterogeneity?
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.
I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:
Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:
1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?
2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?
3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?
4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?
5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?
6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?
If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal

Do you want to get recognition for reviewing this manuscript?

Add a record of this review to track and showcase your reviewing expertise across the world’s journals. Signing up is quick, easy and free!

Yes