

Introduction

- There has been reduced provision of elective orthopaedic surgery throughout the COVID-19 pandemic
- The perception of THA was seen as luxury, so was considered low priority for healthcare provision
- However limited ability to exercise and socialise under lockdown restrictions contributes to arthritic joint disease
- Awaiting elective arthroplasty described as "worse than death"

Aims

Quantify progression of deterioration in quality of life in patients awaiting total hip arthroplasty (THA) delayed due to COVID-19.

Methods

1. Data was collected from 51 patients at the top of the waiting list for THA via telephone questionnaires for 6-month data timepoints.

2. Demographics, Oxford Hip Score (OHS) and analogue quality-of-life scores were documented both currently and from 6 months previously.

3. Young patients (<40y) and those who underwent a THA in the interim period were excluded.

Table 1 - Patient demographics.

	Demographic	No (%)
Gender	Male	19 (38)
	Female	32 (64)
Diabetes	Diabetic	7 (14)
	Non-diabetic	44 (88)
BMI	BMI>25	39 (78)
	BMI<25	12 (24)

Results

- Mean OHS deteriorated from 19.9 to 16.0 over the 6-month lockdown ($p<0.001$) (Figure 1)
- The analogue quality-of-life index deteriorated from 63.6 to 53.8 ($p<0.001$) (Figure 1)

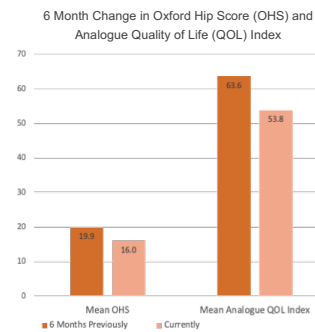


Figure 1: Mean Reduction in OHS and Analogue QOL Index Over the 6 Months

- 88% of patients were willing to undertake COVID-19 risks and proceed with a THA (Figure 2)

Figure 3: Mean reduction in OHS and QOL of the Patients Who Would Not Proceed With THA During Lockdown Versus Those Who Would

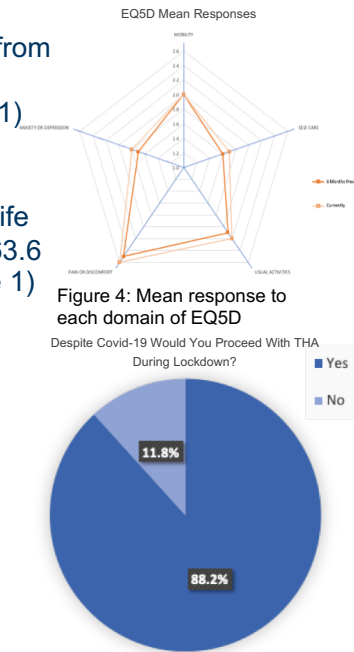
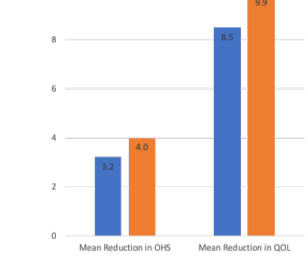


Figure 4: Mean response to each domain of EQ5D Despite Covid-19 Would You Proceed With THA During Lockdown?

Figure 2: Patient Responses to the Question – "Would you proceed with THA during lockdown despite the Covid-19 pandemic?"



Conclusions

- Statistically significant reduction in quality of life and hip function observed in patients awaiting THA
- Most patients willing to undergo THA despite risks concerning COVID-19
- Follow up of these patients will determine their post-operative improvement

References

1. Aresti N et al. Hip Osteoarthritis. Br Med J [Internet]. 2016; Available from: <https://www.bmj.com/content/354/bmj.i3405>
2. Ostendorf M et al. Waiting for total hip arthroplasty: Avoidable loss in quality time and preventable deterioration. Elsevier 19(3):302–9.
3. Scott CE et al. 'Worse than death' and waiting for a joint arthroplasty. Bone Joint J 101-B(8)