The Pre-operative ‘6 pack’ for patients with Ankle Arthritis

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Background

- There is paucity of literature relating to information needs of patients in Orthopaedic Surgery
- Orthopaedic surgeons welcome the use of patient decision aids for joint replacement surgery
Aims

- To study the information needs of patients for surgical treatment of ankle arthritis
Study Design

- Multi-Centre qualitative research study using patient focus groups
Methods:

- Ethical permissions were obtained
- Participating centers: 6 hospitals from the North East region of England
- Post-operative patients following either of the following procedure were invited to take part
- Patient focus groups: 4-8 patients
Focus groups:

- 1 Facilitator, 1 Moderator
- Semi-structured discussion approach
- Facilitation by independent researchers
- Patients were asked for their views on information needs for surgical treatment of ankle arthritis
- Focus group meetings were digitally recorded and transcribed verbatim
- Data was analyzed using nVIVO software and Framework analysis
Results:

- 4 themes emerged from the analysis:
  1. Factors influencing surgical decision making
  2. Information needs of patients
  3. Information provision
  4. Patient expectations
Results:

- Information needs highlighted by 70% of responses were:
  1. Discussion with patients who had undergone similar surgical procedure
  2. Need for information on post-op rehabilitation
  3. Return to work and driving timelines
Results:

1. Experience of consultant team
2. Information on TAR - longitivity of implants when compared to hip and knee replacement procedures
3. Decision support based on lifestyle and preferences
Conclusion

- When developing information materials and decision tools for patients (surgical treatment of ankle arthritis), this ‘pre-op 6 pack content’ will enable them to make a more informed choice of the surgical options offered by the consultant.
Thank You