

Patient Perception of Same Day Discharge Versus Overnight Stay After Total Joint Arthroplasty

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INTRODUCTION: Same day discharge (SDD) after total joint arthroplasty is increasingly prevalent. However, patient perception of this shortened postoperative stay is not well reported. The purpose of this study was to understand patients' perceptions and preferences of their postoperative care by surveying patients who have completed both an overnight stay and a SDD after total joint arthroplasty.

METHODS:

We surveyed 67 patients who previously underwent either two previous total hip arthroplasties (THA) or two total knee arthroplasties (TKA). The survey was administered through a web-based program.

RESULTS:

Fifty-two patients (78%) responded to the survey. The average age was 65 years and 46% were female. Thirty-four (65%) patients underwent 2 TKAs and eighteen (35%) patients underwent 2 THAs.

Overall, 63% of patients preferred their SDD, 12% had no preference, and 25% preferred their overnight stay. There was no statistically significant difference in preference between the TKA and THA groups. Those who preferred their SDD reported being more comfortable at home. Those who preferred their overnight stay felt their pain and concerns were better addressed in the hospital. No differences were found in comfort levels, sleep quality, appetite, burden on family, return to function, feelings of being discharged too soon, overall experience, ED visits, or readmissions between patients' SDD and overnight stays.

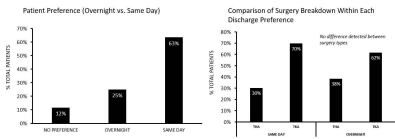
There was a small statistically significant difference between patient perception of safety between SDD versus overnight stay on a 5-point scale where 5 was "very safe" (4.29 +/- .25 v. 4.60 +/- 0.16, p=0.031)

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION:

Majority of the patients preferred their SDD experience after total joint replacement over overnight stay. Although there was a small difference in patient perception of safety, there were no differences in return to the ED or readmissions after SDD

and overnight stay.

Male N = 28
 Female N = 24
 AGE 65 ± 7yrs



Absolute Time Between Surgeries (days)	Time from when patient had OVERNIGHT STAY procedure to when they took the survey (days)	Time from when patient had SDD/SAME DAY procedure to when they took the survey (days)
1173.67 ± 328.00	1628.79 ± 328.50	455.12 ± 41.26

THOSE WHO PREFERRED OVERNIGHT STAY

"I feel more comfortable at home"	"I feel more comfortable in the hospital"	"I feel better about my surgery"	"I feel better about my recovery"	"I feel better about my pain management"	"I feel better about my overall experience"
63.0%	54.0%	60.0%	40.0%	50.0%	3.0%

THOSE WHO PREFERRED SDD

"I feel comfortable at home"	"I feel more comfortable in the hospital"	"I feel better about my surgery"	"I feel better about my recovery"	"I feel better about my pain management"	"I feel better about my overall experience"
61.9%	54.3%	55.5%	41.4%	50.0%	0.0%

Pain Control	SLEEP QUALITY		APPETITE		
	Overnight	SDD	Overnight	SDD	
4.44 ± 0.23	4.37 ± 0.33	3.85 ± 0.25	3.85 ± 0.26	3.46 ± 0.24	
P value	0.880	P value	1.00	P value	0.830

COMFORT	SAFETY		BURDEN ON FAMILY		RETURN TO FUNCTION		
	Overnight	SDD	Overnight	SDD	Overnight	SDD	
3.62 ± 0.31	3.71 ± 0.33	4.60 ± 0.16	4.28 ± 0.25	3.73 ± 0.31	3.87 ± 0.32	3.60 ± 0.25	
P value	0.620	P value	0.001	P value	0.570	P value	0.812

OVERALL EXPERIENCE	FELT DISCHARGED TOO SOON		
	Overnight	SDD	
4.29 ± 0.21	4.37 ± 0.28	3.65 ± 0.16	
P value	0.422	P value	0.341