Preoperative Psychiatric Diagnosis Predicts Worse PROMs and Higher Dissatisfaction Following TKA: A Prospective Cohort of 10,988 Patients

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¹Cleveland Clinic INTRODUCTION:

Approximately 25% of patients undergoing total joint arthroplasty suffer with depression. Given the relatively high prevalence of psychiatric disorders in this group, there is growing interest in examining the outcomes of total knee arthroplasty (TKA) in patients with psychiatric diagnoses. Psychiatric disorders preoperatively have been linked with higher length of stay and increased readmissions, however, there is a paucity of literature on how these conditions affect patient-reported outcome measures (PROMs). Therefore, this study aims to evaluate (1) clinically relevant improvements in PROMs and (2) self-reported satisfaction one year after TKA in patients with and without a preoperative psychiatric diagnosis.

METHODS:

A cohort of 10,988 patients undergoing a primary elective unilateral TKA at a large tertiary academic center in the United States between 2016-2022 were included. Electronic medical records were reviewed to identify preoperative (within two years prior to surgery date) psychiatric diagnoses using ICD-9 codes. Psychiatric diagnoses included were anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), psychosis, bipolar, and substance abuse. If patients had more than one of these diagnoses, they were put into a 'multiple diagnosis' category. The PROMs evaluated included the Knee Disability and Osteoarthritis Outcome Score (KOOS) Pain, Physical Function Shortform (PS), Joint Replacement (JR), and Veteran RAND-12 mental component score (VR-12 MCS). Clinically relevant improvements were determined by the minimal clinically important difference (MCID) and Patient Acceptable Symptom State (PASS) thresholds. Multivariable logistic regression models were used to compare achievement of PASS (satisfaction), MCID, and PASS thresholds between those with and without psychiatric diagnosis. The models were adjusted for pre-specified demographic and surgical variables. All statistical tests were two-sided with a Type I error rate of 0.05. Cohort characteristics are detailed in **Table 1.**

RESULTS:

Overall, 26% (2,872/10,988) had a preoperative psychiatric diagnosis before their TKA. Psychiatric subgroups included anxiety (n=384), bipolar disorder (n=72), depression (n=1443), PTSD (n=20), substance use (n=143), psychosis (n=12), and multiple diagnosis (n=798). Multivariable logistic regression modelling indicates that psychiatric diagnosis was independently associated with failure to reach MCID improvement in KOOS PS (odds ratio [OR] 1.18; 95% confidence interval [CI]: 1.03,1.35; p=0.016), and VR12-MCS (OR 1.52; 1.36, 1.69; p<0.001) (Table 2). Psychiatric diagnosis was also independently associated with failure to reach PASS threshold in KOOS pain (OR 1.13; 1.02, 1.25; p=0.016), PS (OR 1.13; 1.03, 1.25; p=0.014) and JR (OR 1.17; 1.06, 1.3; p=0.002) (Table 3). Subgroup analysis showed that only those with multiple diagnoses have a significantly higher likelihood of failing to attain PASS threshold in KOOS JR (OR: 1.33; 1.12,1.57; p=0.001) (Table 4). Psychiatric diagnoses patients are 19% more likely to be dissatisfied at 1-year post-TKA (OR 1.19; 1.05, 1.34; p=0.005) (Table 5).

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION:

Over a quarter of patients undergoing primary TKA have a preoperative psychiatric diagnosis. Psychiatric diagnosis was an independent predictor of failure to achieve clinically significant improvements in knee pain, function, mental health, and overall satisfaction one year post-surgery. Patients with multiple psychiatric disorders are especially prone to poorer kneespecific functional outcomes. This highlights the importance of a multidisciplinary approach in preoperative patient optimization, as addressing mental health may be key to improving outcomes of TKA.

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