The study included 126 patients with knee OA (stages I-II, 60% women (60%) and 51 men - (40%). All enrolled patients had OA exacerbation (without clinically evident synovitis) and received standard OA treatment (NSAIDs, exercise, orthopedic devices) for 15 days; Gr.1 patients (58) also got 5 intra-articular injections of 1.1% hyaluronic acid, stabilized with sodium succinate (2 ml, once a week). Clinical observation and evaluation of the results were performed at the beginning of the treatment, at 6th, 12th and 24th week after the study beginning.

**Results:** During the treatment period, patients in both groups showed the positive changes in clinical signs and symptoms of OA which led to the lowering of the general WOMAC index (from 78.3 ± 4.2 to 57.8 ± 2.2), p<0.05 in Gr.1, and (75.4 ± 3.8) in Gr. 2 at the beginning of the study to (27.9 ± 2.6) and (29.8 ± 1.9) accordingly at week 12 (<p<0.05 for both groups). The VAS score in both groups indicated a significant pain reduction, but the stability and duration of the clinical effect in the groups was different. In patients of Gr.1, the pain syndrome continued to decrease after 12 weeks till 24th week, whereas in Gr.2 after the treatment course there was no significant changes in further pain remission after 6th week point.

The changes in Lishom score were also significantly better in Gr.1 than in Gr. 2 (before treatment (21.7 ± 4.6) and (22.6 ± 5.3), at week 6 - (86.4 ± 5.7) and (71.3 ± 4.8), at week 12 – (87.6 ± 6.2) and (53.8 ± 3.5), respectively, p<0.05 between groups at week 12th.

**Conclusion:** Combination of hyaluronic acid and sodium succinate biochemical and physiological properties in early stages of knee OA (as intra-articular injections) allows to increase the treatment efficacy, achieve better pain control, and more stable remission comparing to use of the hyaluronic acid alone.

**Disclosure of Interests:** None declared

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**THU0427**

**THE LIFETIME RISK OF KNEE AND HIP REPLACEMENT FOLLOWING A GP DIAGNOSIS OF OSTEOARTHRITIS: REAL WORLD COHORT DATA FROM CATALONIA including 48,311 PARTICIPANTS WITH UP TO 9 YEARS OF FOLLOW-UP**

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**Background:** The lifetime risk of knee and hip replacement following a primary care diagnosis of knee or hip osteoarthritis is unknown and overly negative beliefs about prognosis act as a barrier to implementing recommended management strategies.

**Objectives:** To estimate lifetime risk of knee and hip replacement following a GP diagnosis of osteoarthritis and assess how this risk varies with patient characteristics.

**Methods:** Primary care and linked hospital data from Catalonia, covering 2006 to 2015, were used. Study participants had a newly recorded GP diagnosis of knee or hip osteoarthritis. Parametric survival models were specified for risk of knee/hip replacement and death following diagnosis.

Survival models were combined and extrapolated using a Markov model and lifetime risk estimated for the average patient profile. The effects of age at diagnosis, sex, comorbidities, socioeconomic status, body mass index (BMI), and smoking on risk were assessed.

**Results:** 48,311 individuals diagnosed with knee osteoarthritis were included with a median follow-up of 4.3 years (IQR: 2.1 to 6.5) and of whom 2,561 underwent knee replacement. Respectively figures for hip osteoarthritis were 15,105 individuals diagnosed with a median follow-up of 3.8 years (IQR: 1.8 to 6.1) and 1,247 hip replacements.

The average participant’s lifetime risk for knee replacement was 30% (95% CI: 25% to 36%) and for hip replacement was 14% (10% to 19%). Notable patient characteristics influencing lifetime risk were age at diagnosis for knee and hip replacement, sex for hip replacement, and BMI for knee replacement. BMI increasing from 25 to 35 was associated with lifetime risk of knee replacement increasing from 24% (20% to 28%) to 32% (26% to 37%) for otherwise average patients.

**Conclusion:** Knee and hip replacement are not bound to happen for most after a GP diagnosis of osteoarthritis, with average lifetime risks of less than a third and a sixth, respectively. Patient characteristics influence lifetime risks with, most notably higher BMI associated with a meaningfully increased risk of knee replacement.

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THE EFFECTS OF NEUROMUSCULAR ELECTRICAL STIMULATION ON STRENGTH, PAIN, AND FUNCTION IN INDIVIDUALS WITH KNEE OSTEOARTHRITIS: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW WITH META-ANALYSIS

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Background: Even though Neuromuscular electrical stimulation (NMES) has been widely used as a non-pharmacological intervention in patients with knee osteoarthritis (OA) to improve muscle strength and function, prior research has shown conflicting results regarding NMES effectiveness in knee OA treatment.

Objectives: The aim of this systematic review and meta-analysis was to investigate the effectiveness of NMES in muscle strength, pain, and function in individuals with knee OA.

Methods: Only randomized controlled trials (RCTs) were included in this study. Two authors independently performed the study selection. We used Pubmed, Embase, LILACS, PEDro and Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials as data sources. The main outcome evaluated was muscle strength. Function and pain were assessed as secondary outcomes using the Western Ontario Macmaster (WOMAC) questionnaire and Timed get up and go (TUG) test. The methodological quality was assessed using PEDro scale.

Results: A total of 23,215 were initially identified. After selection of titles and abstracts, studies were selected for the full-text analysis, ten studies were included with a total sample size of 622 patients. The methodological quality of the selected studies was moderate, with a mean score of 5.5 on a 0-10 scale (PEDro). The following analysis were performed:

Legend: All measurements were standardized in N/m. A homogeneity in the data (Chi² = 5.01; I² = 0%) was identified, with a significant difference in favor of NMES (Z = 4.52, p = 0.01). NMES - Neuromuscular electro stimulation.

Abstract THU0428 Figure 1. Meta-analysis of the effect of NMES on the increase of isometric muscle strength.

Legend: A heterogeneity in the data (Chi² = 4.80, I² = 58%) was identified, with no significant difference in favor of NMES (Z = 1.04, p = 0.30).

Abstract THU0428 Figure 2. Meta-analysis of the effect of NMES associated with exercise vs conventional exercise in increasing isometric muscle strength.

Legend: A homogeneity in the data (Chi² = 4.04; I² = 26%) was identified, with a significant difference in favor of NMES (Z = 4.56, p = 0.01).

Abstract THU0428 Figure 3. Meta-analysis of the effect of NMES vs control (No intervention) on isometric muscle strength

Legend: Data homogeneity (Chi² = 5.03; I² = 21%) was identified, with no significant difference in favor of NMES (Z = 0.07, p = 0.95).

Abstract THU0428 Figure 4. Meta-analysis of the effect of NMES on WOMAC pain.

THU0429 DISEASE BURDEN OF PERSONS WITH OSTEOARTHRITIS: RESULTS OF A CROSS-SECTIONAL ANALYSIS FROM A SURVEY LINKED TO CLAIMS DATA IN THE PROCLAIR PROJECT

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Background: Osteoarthritis (OA) is a major reason for chronic pain, stiffness and functional limitation. While disease burden is frequently examined prior to surgery in knee and hip OA, burden in patients with unknown indication of joint surgery and the impact of polyarticular involvement are less often studied.

Objectives: The aim was to analyze factors associated with the burden of OA, taking the pattern of joint involvement into account.

Methods: From a random sample of 8,995 persons with OA (ICD-10 codes M15 [polyarticular], M16 [hip] or M17 [knee]) from a large German statutory health insurance, 3,564 persons completed a questionnaire including the Western Ontario and McMaster Universities Osteoarthritis Index (WOMAC). Persons with knee, hip, concomitant knee and hip or polyarticular manifestation were compared concerning pain, stiffness, function, and impact on work/personal life, excluding asymptomatic OA. Data were linked to dispensation records. The association of age, gender, BMI, symptom duration and WHO-5 with the WOMAC was assessed in multiple linear regression models.

Results: Persons with symptomatic knee (1,130), hip (538), knee and hip (151) and polyarthritic (853) OA were included. Concomitant knee and hip OA was accompanied with the highest WOMAC values (mean 51),