

Summary of research proposal LROI



Title:

Impact of COVID-19 on the quality of life in hip and knee arthroplasty patients. An extension: the role of socio-economic status and regional infection pressure

Authors:

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Abstract:

In a preceding approved proposal 'Impact of the intelligent COVID-19 lockdown on the quality of life in hip and knee arthroplasty patients in the Netherlands' we investigate the impact of the first peak of COVID-19 and the instigated lockdown on orthopedic quality of life in the Netherlands. Outcome data from 23-3-2020 through 15-7-2020 are compared with data from 2018 and 2019 during a similar period. The EQ-5D is the primary outcome, but other disease specific measures are also included.

As suggested by the LROI, here we separately propose an extension which follows from our scientific collaboration with the EuroQoL Research Foundation (ERF). The ERF has issued a large 9-country study on COVID-19 impact in the general population (POPCORN) with n = 3500 representative persons per country. The first findings demonstrate severe health inequity effects (more impact in low and high socio-economic groups), and, likely, of experienced infection and societal pressure. These were present in healthy persons, and in most ambulatory patient groups. Therefore we propose to extend the preceding proposal with 2 variables on socio-economic class and on infection pressure. We aim to use these variables in the subgroup analyses; the analytical approach will remain the same.

Also, we announce a new investigation proposal on the existence of EQ-5D defined health inequities in general in orthopedic outcomes prior to COVID-19 pandemic. This is an independent proposal to be applied January 2021, to be sponsored by ERF. This study uses a similar socio-economic dataset, but from 2014-2020.

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