CLINICAL AND HEALTH ECOMOMIC RELEVANCE OF THE SWEDISH HIP ARTHROPLASY REGISTER

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The Swedish Hip Register was initiated in 1979. All public and private orthopaedic units in Sweden participate voluntarily in the register. The mission is to improve the outcome of THR surgery. The hypothesis is that feedback of data stimulates participating clinics to reflect and improve.In the register, results have mainly been reported with revision or removal of prosthesis components as the definition of failure.We now also measure pain relief and health related quality of life(HRQoL) in the outcome assessment after all THR. Method:From 2002 we in addition to variables describing patient demographics, surgical procedure, choice of implant and details concerning implant shape, size and construction,also included Charnley category (comorbidity information), health related quality of life (EQ-5D), pain relief and patient satisfaction based on VAS-scales. During the last years information about costs per procedure has been collected based on CPP databases (CPP = cost per patient), with standardized cost data from Swedish hospitals. These variables enables the register to calculate costs for quality adjusted life years (costs/QALY gained) and subsequently to perform cost effectiveness analyses. Results: In The Register Annual report we publish 8 outcome variables per participating hospital. The results are openly reported in the printed report as well as on the Register website.Conclusion:To measure outcome with standardized instruments,perform health care evaluation and then report the results is probably the single most important step in improving the general standard of all THR. We use the Clinical Value Compass with eight cardinals (dimensions) to visualize the outcome for all departments. The goal with this measure is that the different departments should learn and improve on their results.In general the standard of hip replacemedt surgery has improved constantly over the years with the lowest revision burden published so far.