## **Clinical Practice Guideline**

# Total Hip Replacement for Osteoarthritis— Evidence-Based and Patient-Oriented Indications

Klaus-Peter Günther, Stefanie Deckert, Cornelia Lützner, Toni Lange, Jochen Schmitt, Anne Postler

## Summary

<u>Background:</u> Total Hip Replacement (THR) belongs to the most common inpatient operations in Germany, with over 240 000 procedures performed per year. 90% of the artificial joints are still functional at 15 years, and up to 60% at 20 years after surgery. It is essential that the indications for such procedures should be uniform, appropriate, and patient-oriented.

<u>Methods</u>: This review is based on publications retrieved by a systematic literature search for national and international guidelines and systematic reviews on the topic of hip osteoarthritis and THR.

<u>Results:</u> THR should be performed solely with radiologically demonstrated advanced osteoarthritis of the hip (Kellgren and Lawrence grade 3 or 4), after at least three months of conservative treatment, and in the presence of high subjective distress due to symptoms arising from the affected hip joint. Contraindications include refractory infection, acute or chronic accompanying illnesses, and BMI  $\geq$ = 40 kg/m2. Patients should stop smoking at least one month before surgery. In patients with diabetes mellitus, preoperative glycemic control to an HbA1c value below 8% is advisable. It is recommended that patients should lower their weight below a BMI of 30 kg/m2.

<u>Conclusion</u>: The decision to perform THR should be taken together by both the physician and the patient when the expected treatment benefit outweighs the risks. Evidence suggests that a worse preoperative condition is associated with a poorer surgical outcome.

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University Center of Orthopaedics, Traumatology & Plastic Surgery, University Medicine Carl Gustav Carus Dresden, Germany Prof. Klaus-Peter Günther MD, Dr. rer. medic. Cornelia Lützner, University Lecturer Dr. Anne Postler MD

Center for Evidence-Based Healthcare, University Medicine Carl Gustav Carus Dresden and the Medical Faculty Carl Gustav Carus of the Technical University Dresden: Stefanie Deckert, Toni Lange, Prof. Jochen Schmitt MD

otal hip replacement (THR) is among the most common operations conducted in an inpatient setting, with approximately 240 000 procedures performed in Germany in 2019 (1). Along with proximal femoral fractures, hip osteoarthritis (hip OA) is the most common disease of the hip joint, treated by hip replacement surgery.

Depending on the stage of the disease, there are a variety of non-surgical and surgical treatment options available for the management of hip osteoarthritis (2). Apart from pharmacological therapy, patient education and exercise therapy as well as maintaining physical activity, are particularly important during the initial stages of the disease. Evidence suggests that for mild to moderate symptoms it is possible to delay THR surgery for some time (median time 5.4 years) by combining these two types of therapy (3). When symptoms deteriorate in the advanced stage, THR is one of the most successful and effective treatment options (2, 4). Data from the British National Joint Registry (NJR), which has been collecting patientreported outcomes since 2009, show that 97.5% of patients reported an improvement in hip pain and function (increase of 153% from a median of 17 to 43 points as measured by the Oxford Hip Score) (5).

According to a meta-analysis from 2019, survival of joint replacement constructs of 89.4% can be expected after 15 years, of 70.2% after 20 years, and of 57.9% after 25 years (6). Also, the risk for surgical complications in the inpatient setting (1.51% for general complications and 2.35% for specific complications) and a mortality risk of 0.04% can be regarded as very low (7).

The frequency of THR performed in Germany differs from region to region. It varies in the individual federal states by a factor of 2.8. Higher rates are found in the south and the northwest (8). One possible reason for this variability is the absence of standardized decision criteria as basis for the indication of THR in a transparent and consistent way. (8). Therefore, the guideline project "Evidence-based and consensus-based indication criteria for total hip replacement (EKIT hip)" was initiated under the auspices of the German Society for Orthopedic and Trauma Surgery (DGOU) and the German Society for Endoprosthetics (AE) (9). The aim was to compile recommendations for indication and contraindication criteria, based on current evidence and agreed by general consensus, and to develop a practical guideline. In order to justify their generally binding character, the agreed recommendations should meet the requirements of the S3 level of clinical-practice guidelines, follow an actionguiding algorithm, and be easy to implement in medical practice.

## **Methods**

Twenty-nine representatives from 23 professional societies/organizations participated in the guideline project (eBox). Firstly, a systematic literature search was conducted for national and international guidelines on hip osteoarthritis and THR (last update January 2020). The methodological quality of the related guidelines was assessed using the German guideline assessment tool (DELBI) by two reviewers independently of each other. (10). Secondly, the authors conducted a systematic literature search of systematic reviews and meta-analyses (referred to here as "Overview") listed in Medline (via Pubmed) and Embase (via Ovid) databases covering the terms "hip joint" and "joint prosthesis" or "hip replacement" (last update August 2020). Screening of the identified hits was performed independently by two reviewers, applying several inclusion criteria for key questions that were prepared according to the PICO model. A structured assessment of the included reviews was conducted using AMSTAR 2 guidelines (11).

## Results

The guideline search identified 18 guidelines of which ten were considered methodologically adequate according to DELBI criteria and therefore included (2, 4, 12-19). A total of 39 relevant systematic reviews (33 with meta-analysis) out of 2175 hits were identified for extraction of the evidence (Figure). According to the AMSTAR criteria, three were of high quality, eight were of adequate quality, and 28 were of lower quality. The level of evidence (LoE) of the included papers varied between 1 + and 2 + (according to the Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network, SIGN), with one meta-analysis (LoE 1 +) (20) and six meta-analyses (LoE 1–) based on randomized controlled trials (RCTs) (21-26) and one meta-analysis based on cohort studies (LoE 2 ++) (27). A further 31 systematic reviews, which included cohort studies, corresponded to evidence level 2 +.

The recommendations were structured according to six subject complexes, the sequence of which can serve as a practical decision-making aid (*Box*).

## **Guideline recommendations**

The recommendations were defined from the search results as follows:

a) evidence-based (the literature used is based on the results of the overview) or



Flowchart: Literature search

 b) based on guideline adaptation or taking guideline(s) into account, i.e. one or more recommendations from the included guidelines were used as a recommendation basis.

The strength of recommendation is marked in the text with " $\uparrow$ " (strong recommendation, level A) or " $\uparrow$ " (weak recommendation, level B). Where evidence is lacking or incomplete, recommendations are identified as "EC" (expert consensus).

## **Diagnosis confirmation (objective requirement)**

If typical symptoms of hip osteoarthritis are present, the diagnosis should be established sequentially, first by taking a targeted history (hip pain, morning stiffness less than 60 minutes) and then by a physical examination of the hip joint (painful internal rotation, limited flexion) (EC) (2). Relevant differential diagnoses should be considered and ruled out. This is particularly indicated in younger age groups to clarify the possibility of joint-preserving surgery ( $\uparrow\uparrow$ , guideline adaptation) (15). Otherwise, conventional radiographs (standard anterior-posterior pelvic view and a second projection of the hip joint) should be obtained, at the latest when hip symptoms persist despite non-surgical therapy (EC).

This expert consensus takes into account the consensus-based recommendations of the European League Against Rheumatism (EULAR) (18), which found no evidence of additional value or superiority of imaging as compared with clinical examination alone in osteoarthritis of the hip. Nevertheless, the indication for THR should only be established after radiological confirmation of osteoarthritis. The irreversibility of the procedure and the potential risks mean that surgery is usually only indicated for advanced osteoarthritis of the hip (Kellgren-Lawrence [KL] grade 3 or 4, *Figure*) ( $\uparrow\uparrow$ , evidence-based). This recommendation is based on two systematic reviews, which reported evidence for a

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Algorithm for establishing the indication for THR in osteoarthritis of the hip

## 1. Diagnosis confirmation (objective requirements)

- History (hip pain, morning stiffness <60 min.) and specific examination (painful internal rotation, reduced flexion)
- Radiologically confirmed osteoarthritis of the hip from KL grade 3
- Radiologically confirmed avascular necrosis of the femoral head from ARCO Illc

#### 2. Patient's subjective distress (personal need)

- Symptoms of hip osteoarthritis:
  - pain
  - limitations of function/ADL
  - restrictions of health-related guality of life
- Assessment using validated instruments for patient-reported outcome measures (PROMs)
- High level of distress despite non-surgical treatment, see 3.

#### 3. Assessment of alternative treatment options

- Completed pharmocological and non-pharmacological therapy ≥3 months
- Core elements of non-pharmacological therapy:
  - patient education
  - exercise therapy
  - weight reduction for overweight/obesity

#### 4. Contraindications

- Previous, not eradicated infection of the hip joint
- Active infection (joints, soft-tissues, hematogenous spread)
- Acute or chronic comorbidities
- BMI ≥40 kg/m<sup>2</sup>

#### 5. Optimization of modifiable risk factors

- No nicotine use for ≥1 month
- Diabetes mellitus: HbA1c <8%</li>
- Recommendation for weight reduction for BMI ≥30 kg/m<sup>2</sup>
- Specialist consultation of suspected mental disorder
- Anemia diagnostics and, if confirmed, treatment
- No intra-articular corticosteroid injection for ≥6 weeks

#### 6. Shared decision-making

- Identification of individual treatment goals
- Information on the feasibility of these goals
- Patient-friendly information
- Jointly reached decision

poorer postoperative outcome in lower-grade osteoarthritis, although the included studies were heterogeneous (28, 29).

However, there are also borderline cases (e.g. dysplasia, femoroacetabular impingement) which are only detectable on MRI and represent an indication for THR despite radiographically lower grade osteoarthritis. Therefore, additional imaging using MRI and/or CT should only be obtained if there is a discrepancy between clinical and radiographic findings (EC, guideline adaptation) (18). The same applies to avascular necrosis of the femoral head, for which, according to the S3 guidelines "Non-traumatic avascular necrosis of the femoral head" (13), THR may be indicated from at least stage IIIc of the International Association for Bone Necrosis (ARCO), even without advanced signs of osteoarthritis (↑, guideline adaptation).

#### Patient's subjective distress (personal need)

Apart from clinical and radiographic evaluation of hip osteoarthritis severity, an assessment of the patient's subjective distress and hip osteoarthritis-related symptoms is also needed:

- Pain
- Limitations of function and activities of daily living
- Restrictions of health-related quality of life (*↑↑*, guideline adaptation) (14, 15).

These evaluations are not only relevant for the assessment of treatment outcomes (non-surgical and/ or surgical), but also for the process of shareddecision-making for or against surgery. Validated patient-reported outcome measurement (PROM) instruments should be used wherever possible ( $\uparrow\uparrow$ , evidence-based). The AE has published consensusbased recommendations for outcome measurements in artificial hip and knee replacement (30). The recommendation of the Oxford Hip Score (OHS) or alternative measurement tools (WOMAC, HOOS or HOOS-PS) as well as a generic score (e.g. EQ-5D, SF-12, SF-36) applies primarily when conducting clinical trials but can also be extended to cover general use. German translations are available for the PROMs mentioned; these are partly subject to a license fee for their commercial use (30).

The question for the appropriate time for surgery is important, both for patients and physicians. There are a number of studies looking at the impact of the degree of preoperative complaints on the likely postoperative treatment outcome (15, 28, 29, 31).

The study evidence does not allow any clear statement as to whether a poor preoperative condition produces a less favorable outcome after THR. But there are clear trends showing that patients in a worse condition before surgery (pain, function, comorbidities and quality of life) do not achieve the same good level after surgery as patients who undergo THR earlier in the disease process (32).A delay of THR must therefore be considered just as thoroughly as an early



Figure: Radiological stages of osteoarthritis of the hip according to the Kellgren-Lawrence score (KL). As a rule, THR surgery should only be performed for advanced hip osteoarthritis (grade 3 or 4).

indication without adequately meeting the indication criteria (for example, low radiological grade and/or insufficiently conducted non-surgical therapy). This should be well considered during the informed consent discussion, taking into account the individual symptom severity ( $\uparrow\uparrow$ , evidence-based).

Ultimately, a high level of subjective distress from hip-related complaints (pain, limitations in function and activities of daily living) and restrictions in health-related quality of life and the presence of the other indication criteria (radiographic evidence of hip osteoarthritis KL grade 3, prior non-surgical therapy with a combination of pharmacological therapy and non- pharmacological therapy for three months) is a strong justification for THR ( $\uparrow\uparrow$ , guideline adaptation) (15).

## Assessment of alternative treatment options (assessment of appropriateness)

The recommendation of combining pharmocological and non-pharmacological therapy for non-surgical management of patients with hip osteoarthritis ( $\uparrow\uparrow$ , guideline adaptation) is supported by a total of six of the included guidelines (2, 4, 12, 14–16). Patients should have at least carried out, or should have been recommended, the following core elements of conservative non-pharmacological therapy:

- Patient education (information, education and counseling about the disease)
- Exercise therapy and enhancement of physical activity
- Weight reduction in patients with overweight and obesity (↑↑, guideline adaptation).

The evidence base for the first two core elements is comprehensive and of high quality. The UK guideline cites the significant effect of providing diseasespecific information (treatment programs, selfmanagement programs, training, leaflets) on pain relief, reduction of pain medication, improved quality of life, and self-help – including two meta-analyses and six randomized controlled trials (RCTs) (15). The most recent guidelines of the Osteoarthritis Research Society International (OARSI) report eight RCTs showing significant effects of exercise therapy on pain relief, improvements of function and activity (4).

THR should be indicated when a high subjective level of distress persists for at least three months, despite guideline-based non-surgical therapy ( $\uparrow$ , evidence-based). This recommendation is based on two high-quality meta-analyses (20, 22). In a Cochrane review, Fransen et al. (20) examined ten RCTs that compared exercise therapy (strengthening and stretching exercises, cardiovascular training) with a control group without exercise therapy . A significant treatment effect was demonstrated for pain relief (9 RCTs, n = 549, standardized mean difference [SMD] -0.38, 95% confidence interval [-0.55; -0.20]) and functional gain (9 RCTs, n = 521, SMD -0.38, [-0.54; -0.05]) immediately after treatment.

Analysis of five RCTs on the sustainability of the effects over three to six months also found significant results (pain relief n = 391, SMD -0.38 [-0.58; -0.18] and functional gain n = 365, SMD -0.37 [-0.57; -0.16]). In their analysis of 77 RCTs on hip and knee osteoarthritis (comparison of intervention groups with additional therapeutic exercise with control groups without additional therapy), Goh et al. (22) found that the positive effects in terms of pain, improvement in function and activity, and increase in quality of life through additional exercise peaked after eight weeks and decreased afterwards. There was no difference from the control group after about 9 to 18 months.

#### Contraindications

The proportion of patients with an absolute contraindication for THR surgery is comparatively low. Given the increased risk of infection, revision and mortality, the indication for THR should not be made, or should be delayed, and should be reviewed particularly critically in the presence of the following factors:

- previous, not eradicated infection of the hip joint
- acute or chronic comorbidities and
- morbid obesity (body mass index [BMI]  $\geq 40 \text{ kg/m}^2$ ).

Before performing a THR, an active infection of the affected hip joint as well as of the surrounding soft tissues must be ruled out ( $\uparrow\uparrow$ , guideline adaptation). The Second International Consensus Meeting on Orthopedic Infections (2<sup>nd</sup> ICM) (17) justifies this recommendation with the data of Pugely et al., who reported a 5-fold increased probability of periprosthetic joint infection within 30 days after surgery following a previous wound infection (n = 23 128 total hip and knee replacement, OR 5.0 [2.3; 10.9]) (33).

Active infections at other sites (hematogenous spread, local tissues, joints) should have healed before THR is performed ( $\uparrow\uparrow$ , guideline adaptation) (17). There is strong evidence for this recommendation (17 observational studies), which consistently showed a significantly increased risk of infection after surgery. A thorough medical history (infectious diseases, immunosuppressant medication usage, alcohol and nicotine addiction) and physical examination (dental, venous, skin status) as well as blood tests (CRP, white blood cell count, blood glucose, HbA1c) or, if necessary, joint aspiration are used to confirm absence of infection.

The association between a BMI  $\geq$ 40 kg/m<sup>2</sup> and a strongly increased risk of periprosthetic joint infections may be considered confirmed (three meta-analyses):

- for septic revisions (n = 10 325, relative risk 9.8 [3.6; 26.6]) (34)
- for periprosthetic infections (n = 8253, RR 8.5 [3.5; 20.7]) (35) and (n = 24 134, RR 3.7 [2.3; 6.0]) (27).

The  $2^{nd}$  ICM also rates the evidence for an increased risk of wound and periprosthetic infection with increasing BMI as reliable (17). Patients with a BMI  $\geq$ 40 kg/m<sup>2</sup> should undergo a particularly critical risk-benefit analysis of the intervention ( $\uparrow\uparrow$ , evidence-based and guideline adaptation).

## Optimization of modifiable risk factors

Patients have their own individual risk-factor profile that can have a negative impact on perioperative and postoperative complication rates, as well as treatment outcomes and implant survival (36). When planning treatment, it is important to consider whether existing risk factors are modifiable and the individual potential for complications can be reduced. Modifiable risk factors include nicotine addiction, poorly controlled diabetes mellitus, obesity (BMI  $\geq$ 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup>), asymptomatic bacteriuria, mental disorders, anemia, and preoperative intra-articular corticosteroid injections. Systematic reviews that show evidence of these risk factors and their impact on postoperative outcomes are presented in *eTable 1*.

 Smokers should be encouraged to abstain from nicotine at least 1 month prior to scheduled THA (<sup>↑</sup>, evidence-based).

- Blood sugar levels of patients with diabetes mellitus should be optimized prior to THR surgery (*↑↑*, evidence-based). An HbA1c level below 8% should be targeted (EC).
- Patients with a BMI ≥30 kg/m<sup>2</sup> should be advised to lose weight prior to THR surgery (↑, evidence-based and guideline adaptation).
- An asymptomatic bacteriuria should not be treated prior to a scheduled THA (*↑↑*, evidence-based).
- Patients with a suspected mental disorder should be advised to seek specialist consultation prior to THR surgery (EC).
- Prior to performing THA surgery, anemia diagnostics as well as therapy should be performed if the latter is required (*↑↑*, evidence-based and guideline adaptation).
- After intra-articular injection of corticosteroids, THA surgery should be performed at the earliest 6 weeks after injection; a three-months delay is recommended, however (↑, evidence-based).

## Shared decision-making

The patient's willingness to undergo joint replacement and the physician's assessment of its necessity do not always match (37). During the shared decision-making process, the patient's individual expectations and goals should be identified and documented (EC) and then their actual feasibility by means of THR should be discussed (EC). These include the expected benefits in terms of postoperative outcome (pain relief, improvement in function, activity and quality of life), the surgical risks in general as well as the individual risk profile and the likelihood of achieving individual goals. Patient-friendly information material should assist the informed consent process (EC). Finally, the consultation should conclude with a jointly reached decision for or against surgery. It should be agreed on that the expected benefits of surgery outweigh its potential risks (EC).

The recommendations were incorporated in a practical checklist (*eTable 2*) to support guideline implementation.

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As with many other professional journals, clinical guidelines in the German Medical Journal are not subject to the peer review process since S3 guidelines are already texts that have been assessed and discussed by experts (peers) and already have a broad consensus.

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#### Corresponding author

Prof. Klaus-Peter Günther MD, University Center of Orthopedic, Trauma and Plastic Surgery, University Hospital Carl Gustav Carus University at the Technical University of Dresden, Fetscherstr. 74, 01307 Dresden, Germany

klaus-peter.guenther@ukdd.de

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Supplementary material

eReferences, eTables, eBox: www.aerzteblatt-international.de/m2021.0323

## CLINICAL SNAPSHOT

## Perianal Localized Nevus Lipomatosus Cutaneus Superficialis



**Figure**: (a) Physical examination showed a pediculated mass measuring approx. 1.5 × 1.0 cm in the perianal region; (b) Postoperative histological analysis confirmed the diagnosis of nevus lipomatosus cutaneus superficialis. A 48-year-old man with a 3-year history of perianal mass presented to our institution with a growth in the perianal region gradually increasing in size. Physical examination revealed a pediculated mass measuring approx. 1.5 × 1.0 cm, soft and with no hardened areas, pressure sensitivity, or excessive heat. Considering the volume of the mass and the possibility of malignant transformation, surgical excision was performed at. The postoperative pathology result was consistent with nevus lipomatosus cutaneous superficialis (Hoffmann-Zurhelle). The postoperative one-month follow-up visit was uneventful and showed no postoperative complications. Nevus

lipomatosus cutaneous superficialis (NLCS) is an extremely rare benign hamartomatous skin tumor characterized by dermal deposition of mature adipose tissue. We recommend surgical excision of the NLCS if the lesion is rapidly enlarged or occurs at a site susceptible to malignant transformation.

Xi Zhou\*, MD, Shuzhong Liu\*, MD, Yong Liu, MD, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Peking Union Medical College and Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, Beijing, China; liuyong\_pumch@163.com.

\*These authors contributed equally to this work..

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## Supplementary material to:

## Total Hip Replacement for Osteoarthritis— Evidence-Based and Patient-Oriented Indications

by Klaus-Peter Günther, Stefanie Deckert, Cornelia Lützner, Toni Lange, Jochen Schmitt, and Anne Postler

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## eBOX

## Participants in the S3 guideline "Evidence-based and consensus-based indication criteria for total hip replacement (EKIT hips)"

## EKIT study team

Prof. Klaus-Peter Günther MD (Orthopedic, Trauma and Plastic Surgery, OUPC, University Medicien of Dresden) Prof. Jochen Schmitt MD (Center for Evidence-Based Healthcare, ZEGV, University Medicine of Dresden) University Lecturer Dr. med. habil. Anne Postler (OUPC, University Medicine of Dresden) Prof. Jörg Lützner MD (OUPC, University Medicine of Dresden) Dr. rer. medic. Cornelia Lützner (OUPC, University Medicine of Dresden) Stefanie Deckert (ZEGV, University Medicine of Dresden) Toni Lange (ZEGV, University Medicine of Dresden)

### Guideline group

Prof. Martin Aringer MD (German Society for Rheumatology, DGRh) Prof. Antje Bergmann MD / Dr. Natascha Einhart MD (German College of General Practitioners and Family Physicians, DEGAM) Dr. Fritjof Bock MD / Prof. Dr. h. c. Jörg Jerosch MD (German Pain Society) Dr. Hartmut Bork MD (Rehabilitation Section – Physiotherapy of the DGOU) Prof. Karsten E. Dreinhöfer MD (German Network of Health Services Research, DNVF) Corinna Elling-Audersch (German League against Rheumatism, Federal Association, research partner) PD Dr. Stefan Fickert MD (Society for Arthroscopy and Joint Surgery, AGA) Dr. Melanie Foerder MD (AOK PLUS) Prof. Niklaus Friederich MD (German Osteoarthritis Aid) Ute Garske (German League against Rheumatism, Federal Association, research partner) Prof. Dr. med. Ralph Gaulke (German Society for Orthopedic Rheumatology, DGORh) Prof. Dr. med. Erika Gromnica-Ihle (German League against Rheumatism, Federal Association) Dr. med. Holger Haas (Independent expert) Prof. Dr. med. Karl-Dieter Heller (Professional Association for Orthopedics and Trauma Surgery, BVOU) Prof. Dr. Daniela Holle (German Society for Nursing Science, DGP) Dr. rer. nat. Ulrike Kaiser (German Society for Psychological Pain Therapy and Research, DGPSF) PD Dr. med. Stephan Kirschner (German Society for Arthroplasty, AE) Prof. Dr. med. Bernd Kladny (German Society for Orthopedics and Trauma Surgery, DGOU) Prof. Dr. Christian Kopkow (German Society for Physiotherapy Science, DGPTW) Marianne Korinth (German League against Rheumatism, Federal Association, research partner) Dr. Michael Kremer MD (German Society for Trauma Surgery, DGU) Dorothee Krug (Association of Substitute Health Insurance Funds, vdek) Maike Linke, Dipl.-Psvch, (German Society of Medical Psvchology, DGMP) Dr. Jürgen Malzahn MD (AOK Health Insurance Provider, Federal Association) Dr. Ursula Marschall MD (BARMER Health Insurance Provider) Prof. Georg Matziolis MD / University Lecturer Dr. Eric Röhner MD (Representative of the S2k Guidelines on Hip Osteoarthritis) Vincent Justus Leopold (German Society for Orthopedics and Orthopedic Surgery, DGOOC) University Lecturer Dr. Johannes Schauwecker MD / Prof. Rüdiger von Eisenhart-Rothe MD (German Hip Society, DHG) Prof. Susanne Schwarzkopf MD (German Society for Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, DGPRM)

## Moderator

Dr. Monika Nothacker MD (Association of the Scientific Medical Societies in Germany, AWMF)

#### Editor

German Society for Orthopedics and Trauma Surgery (DGOU)

• The management boards of the following professional societies and organizations have approved the guidelines: DGOU, DGOOC, DGU, AE, DHG, BVOU, DGORh, AGA, DGRh, DGPRM, DEGAM, German Pain Society, DGPSF, DGP, DGPTW, DNVF, DGMP, German League against Rheumatism, German Osteoarthritis Aid, BARMER GEK, vdek, AOK Federal Association, AOK PLUS

## eTABLE 1

Results of the overview of the risk factors nicotine addiction, diabetes mellitus, obesity, asymptomatic bacteriuria, depression, anemia, and intra-articular corticosteroid injection (IACI) with regard to the postoperative outcome.

Modifiable risk factor	Risk of	Direction	Studies	OR/ RR / WMD / SMD
Nicotine addiction	periprosthetic joint infection	Î	13 retrospective cohort and case-control studies	pooled OR 2.02; 95% CI [1.47; 2.77] (e1)
			3 cohort studies (smokers vs. non- smokers for at least 30 days)	pooled OR 1.52; [1.07; 2.14] (e1)
			8 longitudinal studies	pooled RR 1.83; [1.24; 2.70] (e2)
			4 cohort studies	pooled RR 3.71; [1.86; 7.41] (e3)
	wound complications	1	14 retrospective cohort and case-control studies	pooled OR 1.78; [ 1.32; 2.39] (e1)
	thrombembolic events	$\downarrow$	5 observational studies	pooled RR 0.56; [0.42; 0.75] (e4)
	aseptic loosening	ns	3 observational studies	pooled OR 1.96; [0.43; 8.97] (e5)
		1	3 cohort studies	pooled RR 3.05; [1.42; 6.58] (e3)
	postoperative complication in general	<b>↑</b>	2 cohort studies	pooled RR 1.24; [1.01; 1.54] (e6)
			4 cohort studies	pooled RR 2.58; [1.27; 5.22] (e3)
Diabetes mellitus	periprosthetic joint infection	Ţ	5 observational studies	pooled OR 1.51; [1.33; 1.71] (e7)
			29 longitudinal studies	pooled RR 1.74; [1.45; 2.09] (e2)
			12 observational studies	pooled OR 1.90; [1.32; 2.74] (e8)
			10 observational studies	pooled OR 1.49; [0.94; 2.37] (e9)
			3 observational studies	pooled OR 2.04; [1.52; 2.76] (e10)
			6 retrospective studies	pooled WMD 3.27; [2.86; 3.67] (e11)
	wound complications	1	3 longitudinal studies	pooled RR 2.57; [1.07; 6.17] (e2)
	revisions	1	4 observational studies	pooled OR 1.28; [1.02; 1.59] (e8)
	thrombembolic events	ns	6 observational studies	pooled OR 0.78; [0.75; 0.82] (e12)
	mortality (short-term)	1	4 observational studies	pooled OR 1.26; [1.15; 1.38] (e8)
Obesity	periprosthetic joint infection	Ţ	4 observational studies	pooled OR 2.04; [1.71; 2.44] (e7)
(BMI ≥30 kg/m )			20 longitudinal studies	pooled OR 1.60; [1.29; 1.99] (e2)
			14 prospective studies (BMI ≥30 vs. <30 kg/m²)	pooled RR 2.26; [1.60; 3.20] (e13)
			10 observational studies	pooled OR 0.30; [0.19; 0.49] (e14)
			5 observational studies	pooled RR 3.17; [2.25; 4.47] (e15)
			5 observational studies	pooled WMD 0.32; [0.18; 0.46] (e16)
		ns	4 prospective cohort studies	pooled RR 2.92; [0.74; 11.49] (e17)
	aseptic loosening	ns	7 observational studies (BMI ≥30 vs. <30 kg/m²)	pooled OR 1.01; [0.73; 1.40] (e5)
		$\uparrow$	6 observational studies	pooled OR 0.64; [0.43; 0.96] (e14)
	thrombembolic events	$\uparrow$	16 observational studies (BMI ≥30 vs. <30 kg/m²)	pooled RR 1.65; [1.23; 2.22] (e4)
			7 observational studies	pooled OR 0.56; [0.32; 0.98] (e14)
	dislocation	↑ ↓	10 observational studies	pooled OR 0.54; [0.38; 0.75] (e14)
			6 prospective cohort studies	pooled RR 2.08; [1.54; 2.81] (e17)
	PROM		6 prospective cohort studies	pooled RR -2.72; [-4.77; -0.67] (e17)
			5 observational studies	pooled SMD 4.54; [3.14; 5.93] (e14)
Asymptomatic	periprosthetic joint infection	1	11 observational studies	pooled OR 2.38; [1.21; 4.67] (e18)
bacteriuria (ASB)			5 observational studies	pooled RR 2.87; [1.65; 5.00] (e19)

Modifiable risk factor	Risk of	Direction	Studies	OR/ RR / WMD / SMD
Depression	infection (deep/superficial)	ns	3 observational studies	pooled OR 1.54; [0.64; 3.69] (e8)
	thrombembolic events	↑	2 observational studies	pooled OR 1.15; [1.02; 1.30] (e8)
	postoperative pain	ns	3 observational studies	pooled OR 1.22; [0.79; 1.87] (e8)
	postoperative function	$\downarrow$	4 observational studies	pooled OR 1.69; [1.26; 2.28] (e9)
Anemia	ESA administration – effect on blood transfusion	Ļ	25 RCTs	pooled RR 0.48; [0.38; 0.60] (e20)
			6 RCTs	pooled OR 0.41; [0.28; 0.60] (e21)
			14 RCTs	pooled OR 0.41; [0.28; 0.60] (e22)
	erythropoietin administration – effect on blood transfusion	↓	6 RCTs	pooled RR 0.45; [0.33; 0.61] (e23)
Intra-articular	periprosthetic joint infection	ns	6 retrospective studies	pooled RR 1.61; [0.96; 2.72] (e24)
corticosteroid injection (IACI)			3 longitudinal studies	pooled RR 4.03; [0.75; 21.80] (e2)
			5 retrospective studies	pooled RR 1.59; [0.66; 3.83] (e25)
		1	8 retrospective cohort studies	pooled OR 2.13; [1.02; 4.45] (e26)
	wound infection	ns	6 retrospective cohort studies	pooled OR 1.75; [0.74; 4.16] (e26)
			5 retrospective studies	pooled RR 1.91; [0.48; 7.56] (e25)

BMI, body mass index; ESA, erythropoiesis stimulating agent; CI, confidence interval; OR, odds ratio; PROM, patient-reported outcome measures; RCT, randomized controlled study; RR, relative risk; SMD, standardized mean difference; WMD, weighted mean difference

hecklist: Indications for THR f	or osteoarthritis of the hip				
Indication criteria			Yes	No	
Structural damage	At least KL grade 3 hip osteoarthritis (or avascular necrosis of the fen				
Non-surgical treatment	Combination of pharmacological and non-pharmacologicaltreatment				
	Core elements of non-pharmacological treatment completed: informat				
High level of subjective dis- tress despite non-surgical	Hip-related complaints (pain, limited function) Measuring instrument/score				
treatment	Headaning instrument/score:				
Reason if answer is "No"					
Contraindications			Yes	No	
Active infection (of joints, soft-tis					
Acute or chronic comorbidities					
BMI ≥40 kg/m²					
Other contraindications agains If "Yes": which?:	t surgery				
Reason if answer is "Yes"			I		
Minimum requirement for THR	fulfilled?				
Modifiable risk factors		Not applicable	Yes	No	
Nicotine: abstinence recommend					
Diabetes mellitus: HbA1c <8%					
BMI >30 kg/m <sup>2</sup> : weight reduction recommended					
Anemia: optimization completed		Anemia: optimization completed			
Intra-articular corticosteroid injection: no THR for 6 weeks					
Intra-articular corticosteroid inj	ection: no THR for 6 weeks				
Intra-articular corticosteroid inj Suspected mental disorder: spe	ection: no THR for 6 weeks cialist consultation recommended				
Intra-articular corticosteroid inj Suspected mental disorder: spa Reason if answer is "No"	ection: no THR for 6 weeks				
Intra-articular corticosteroid inj Suspected mental disorder: spa Reason if answer is "No" Participative decision-making	ection: no THR for 6 weeks				
Intra-articular corticosteroid inj Suspected mental disorder: spo Reason if answer is "No" Participative decision-making Patient goals Please enter the most important of	ection: no THR for 6 weeks ecialist consultation recommended goals expected to be fulfilled by surgery.	Physician'	s assessment c	of fulfillment	
Intra-articular corticosteroid inj Suspected mental disorder: spo Reason if answer is "No" Participative decision-making Patient goals Please enter the most important o	ection: no THR for 6 weeks ecialist consultation recommended goals expected to be fulfilled by surgery.	Physician <sup>4</sup>	s assessment c uncertain	of fulfillment unlikely	
Intra-articular corticosteroid inj Suspected mental disorder: spo Reason if answer is "No" Participative decision-making Patient goals Please enter the most important g	ection: no THR for 6 weeks ecialist consultation recommended goals expected to be fulfilled by surgery.	Physician <sup>4</sup>	s assessment c uncertain	of fulfillment unlikely	
Intra-articular corticosteroid inj Suspected mental disorder: spo Reason if answer is "No" Participative decision-making Patient goals Please enter the most important of	ection: no THR for 6 weeks ecialist consultation recommended goals expected to be fulfilled by surgery.	Physician <sup>4</sup> likely	s assessment c uncertain	of fulfillment unlikely	
Intra-articular corticosteroid inj Suspected mental disorder: spe Reason if answer is "No" Participative decision-making Patient goals Please enter the most important of Shared< decision: THP surger	ection: no THR for 6 weeks ecialist consultation recommended goals expected to be fulfilled by surgery.	Physician <sup>4</sup> likely	s assessment c uncertain	of fulfillment unlikely	

Help for everyday practice – Check list for establishing indication for THR for osteoarthritis of the hip BMI, body mass index; KL, Kellgren-Lawrence score; ns, not significant; OP, operation; THR, total hip replacement