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IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON ORTHOPAEDIC AND TRAUMA SURGERY IN UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS IN GERMANY. RESULTS OF A NATIONWIDE SURVEY

http://dx.doi.org/10.2106/JBJS.20.00756

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A survey by the convent of University Professors of Orthopaedic and Trauma surgery in Germany

# To evaluate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on orthopaedic and trauma surgery in university hospitals in Germany

A) Government		Totally agree	Rather agree	Neutral	Rather disagree	Totally disagree
	of information by at different points					
2. Have you asses measures taken	sed the political as adequate?					
3. Did you perceiv of elective oper adequate measu						
4. Would you have commitments for coverage?	preferred more or financial support/					
•	demic the work of has been perceived					

ins	Health Authorities (Robert Koch- stitute, public health department, Paul- rlich-institute)	Totally agree	Rather agree	Neutral	Rather disagree	Totally disagree
6.	Communication of information by the authorities was adequate.					
7.	The authorities were competent counterparts.					
8.	The authorities enacted adequate measures for the protection of healthcare workers (e.g. protection in the emergency department/OR/ward).					
9.	The authorities were perceived as supporters of our department.					

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C) Hospital administration	Totally agree	Rather agree	Neutral	Rather disagree	Totally disagree
10. Communication with the hospital administration was adequate.					
11. The hospital administration explicitly communicated that financial targets are second-tier in the current situation.					
12. The hospital administration actively regulated personnel distribution.					
13. There was financial compensation for the reallocation of staff from other departments (e.g.: anaesthesia/intensive care).					
14. The hospital administration ensured sufficient protection of their employees (e.g. SOPs, providing protective equipment).					
15. The hospital administration was perceived as a supporter of the orthopaedic and trauma surgery department.					
16. The orthopaedic and/or trauma surgery departments were actively included in crisis management.					
17. The orthopaedic and/or trauma surgery departments were included in the following crisis management groups:	(free text)				

D) Other departments	Totally agree	Rather agree	Neutral	Rather disagree	Totally disagree
18. Communication with anesthesiologists and intensive care physicians was adequate.					
19. Communication with infectiologists was adequate.					

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E) Restructuring/Consequences of the pandemic	Capacity reduction in %	Reduction of capacity utilisation in %
20. Estimate the capacity and its utilisation of patient beds in your department.		
21. Estimate the capacity and its utilisation of operating rooms in your department.		
22. Estimate the capacity and its utilisation of the outpatient department in your department.		
23. Estimate the fraction of doctors who were reallocated to other departments.		
24. Which departments were those doctors allocated to?	(free text)	
25. Estimate the fraction of doctors of your department with reduced working-hours.		
26. Estimate the fraction of doctors of your department who have been infected by SARS-CoV-2.		
27. Estimate the fraction of doctors of your department who are/were in home quarantine.		

E) Restructuring/Consequences of the pandemic	Yes	No
28. Reduction of overtime hours was ordered.		
29. Vacation was ordered.		
30. The wage agreement's legal requirements were met in doing so.		
31. Sufficient adequate protective equipment was provided for your employees.		
32. Emergency surgeries (at least N4 classified) had to be postponed due to sick leaves of employees.		
33. At this point, would you consider that not achieving your financial target settings will have financial consequences for your department?		
34. At this point, would you consider that not achieving your financial target settings will have consequences for your department's staff?		

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E) Financial Impact	Please estimate the loss regarding your financial target settings in the following aspects (in %) at this point.
35. Case Mix Points	
36. Revenue	

F) Future prospects	Totally agree	Rather agree	Neutral	Rather disagree	Totally disagree
37. The number of elective surgeries (e.g. arthroplasty) will decrease in the future.					
38. Your department will have lost significance in the future.					
39. Overall, your department will be weakened by the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic.					

G) Affiliation	Orthopaedics	Orthopaedic and trauma surgery	Trauma surgery
40. Participant in leading function of the			
F) The following field is provided for further comments			
41. (free text)			

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#### Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on orthopaedic and trauma surgery in university hospitals in Germany

Total score is calculated from the sum of the Likert scale values, where "totally agree" is equal to 5, "rather agree" to 4, "neutral" to 3, "rather disagree" to 2, "totally disagree" to 1

Q1. Did you perceive the communication of information by the government at different points in time as appropriate?

Answer Choices	Responses	Example	2		
totally agree	13,46%	7	7*5		
rather agree	51,92%	27	27*4		
neutral	11,54%	6	6*3		
rather disagree	19,23%	10	10*2		
totally disagree	3,85%	2	2*1		
	Answered	52 total sc	ore mean	SD	
	Skipped	0	183	3,5	1,1

# Q2. Have you assessed the political measures taken as adequate?

Answer Choices	Responses				
totally agree rather agree neutral rather disagree totally disagree	23,08% 48,08% 11,54% 11,54% 5,77%	12 25 6 6 3 <b>52</b> total score	mean	SD	
	Skipped	0 1	93	3,7	1,1

#### Q3. Did you perceive the postponement of all elective operations as an adequate measure?

Answer Choices	Responses				
totally agree rather agree neutral rather disagree totally disagree	9,62% 36,54% 15,38% 32,69% 5,77%	5 19 8 17 3			
	Answered	52 total score	mean	SD	
	Skipped	0 16	2	3,1	1,1

# Q4. Would you have preferred more commitments for financial support/ coverage?

Answer Choices	Responses				
totally agree	38,46%	20			
rather agree	30,77%	16			
neutral	25,00%	13			
rather disagree	1,92%	1			
totally disagree	3,85%	2 total so	ore mean	SD	
	Answered	52	207	4	1
	Skipped	0			

# Q5. Despite the pandemic the work of our department has been perceived as important.

Answer Choices	Responses	
totally agree	25,00%	13
rather agree	21,15%	11
neutral	30,77%	16

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rather disagree	15,38%	8			
totally disagree	7,69%	4 total score mean		SD	
	Answered	52	177	3,4	1,2
	Skipped	0			

#### Q6. Communication of information by the authorities was adequate.

	Skipped	1			
	Answered	51	178	3,5	1,1
totally disagree	3,92%	2 total s	core mean	SD	
rather disagree	17,65%	9			
neutral	17,65%	9			
rather agree	47,06%	24			
totally agree	13,73%	7			
Answer Choices	Responses				
Qo. Communication of information by the a	dirioniics was adequate.				

#### Q7. The authorities were competent counterparts.

Answer Choices	Responses				
totally agree	13,73%	7			
rather agree	23,53%	12			
neutral	41,18%	21			
rather disagree	15,69%	8			
totally disagree	5,88%	3 total s	score mean	SD	
	Answered	51	165	3,2	1
	Skipped	1			

# Q8. The authorities enacted adequate measures for the protection of healthcare workers.

Answer Choices	Responses				
totally agree	5,88%	3			
rather agree	21,57%	11			
neutral	17,65%	9			
rather disagree	43,14%	22			
totally disagree	11,76%	6 total	score mean	SD	
	Answered	51	136	2,7	1,1
	Skipped	1			

# Q9. The authorities were perceived as supporters of our department.

Answer Choices	Responses				
totally agree	3,92%	2			
rather agree	9,80%	5			
neutral	33,33%	17			
rather disagree	39,22%	20			
totally disagree	13,73%	7 total	score mean	SD	
	Answered	51	128	2,5	0,9
	Skipped	1			

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#### Q10. Communication with the hospital administration was adequate.

Answer Choices					
	Responses				
totally agree	46,00%	23			
rather agree	30,00%	15			
neutral	10,00%	5			
rather disagree	10,00%	5			
totally disagree	4,00%	2 tota	l score mean	SD	
	Answered	50	202	4	1,2
	Skipped	2			

# Q11. The hospital administration explicitly communicated that financial targets are second-tier in the current situation.

Answer Choices	Responses				
totally agree	42,00%	21			
rather agree	28,00%	14			
neutral	12,00%	6			
rather disagree	12,00%	6			
totally disagree	6,00%	3 tota	l score mean	SD	
	Answered	50	194	3,9	1,3
	Skipped	2			

# Q12. The hospital administration actively regulated personnel distribution.

Answer Choices	Responses				
totally agree	26,00%	13			
rather agree	30,00%	15			
neutral	18,00%	9			
rather disagree	14,00%	7			
totally disagree	12,00%	6 total	score mean	SD	
	Answered	50	172	3,4	1,3
	Skipped	2			

#### Q13. There was financial compensation for the reallocation of staff from other departments.

Answer Choices	Responses				
totally agree	6,00%	3			
rather agree	8,00%	4			
neutral	34,00%	17			
rather disagree	26,00%	13			
totally disagree	26,00%	13 total s	score mean	SD	
	Answered	50	121	2,4	1,1
	Skipped	2			

#### Q14. The hospital administration ensured sufficient protection of their employees.

Answer Choices	Responses			
totally agree	22,00%	11		
rather agree	52,00%	26		
neutral	12,00%	6		
rather disagree	12,00%	6		
totally disagree	2,00%	1 total score	mean	SD

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Answered	50	190	3,8	1
Skipped	2			

Q15. The hospital administration was perceived as a supporter of the orthopaedic and trauma surgery department.

Answer Choices	Responses				
totally agree	14,00%	7			
rather agree	16,00%	8			
neutral	32,00%	16			
rather disagree	28,00%	14			
totally disagree	10,00%	5 total	score mean	SD	
	Answered	50	148	3	1,2
	Skipped	2			

Q16. The orthopaedic and/or trauma surgery departments were actively included in crisis management.

Answer Choices	Responses				
totally agree	32,00%	16			
rather agree	30,00%	15			
neutral	18,00%	9			
rather disagree	12,00%	6			
totally disagree	8,00%	4 total	score mean	SD	
	Answered	50	183	3,7	1,3
	Skipped	2			

Q17. The orthopaedic and/or trauma surgery departments were included in the following crisis management groups:

Answered	<b>50</b> ICU	5
Skipped	2 OR coordination	4
	ED	4
	COVID19 task forc	24

Free Text:more than one answer possible (shown the most frequently mentioned)

Q18. Communication with anesthesiologists and intensive care physicians was adequate.

Answer Choices	Responses				
Stimme voll zu	46,94%	23			
Stimme eher zu	32,65%	16			
Neutral	12,24%	6			
Lehne eher ab	6,12%	3			
Lehne völlig ab	2,04%	1 total	score mean	SD	
	Answered	49	204	4,2	1
	Skipped	3			

Q19. Communication with infectiologists was adequate.

	<u> </u>							
	Answer Choices		Responses					
totally agree rather agree neutral rather disagree totally disagree			34,69% 42,86% 12,24% 8,16% 2,04%	17 21 6 4 1		mean	SD	
		Answere	d	49	19	16	4	1
		Skipped		3				

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Q20. Estimate the capacity and its utilisation of patient beds in your department.

Answer Choices	Responses	mean	SD

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Reduction of patient bed capacity in % Q21. Estimate the capacity and its utilisation of ope	100,00% rating rooms in your department.	43 45.3%		20,1
Answer Choices	Responses	mean	SD	
Redcution of operating room capacity in %	100,00%	43 49.4%		20,4
Utilisation of operating rooms in %	100,00%	43 61.6%		22
	Answered	43		
	Skipped	9		
Q22. Estimate the capacity and its utilisation of the	outpatient department in your dep	partment.		
Answer Choices	Responses	mean	SD	
Reduction of outpatient department capacity in %	100,00%	43 72	2%	21,1
Utilisation of outpatient department in %	97,67%	42 39,2	0%	29,1
	Answered	43		
	Skipped	9		
Skipped	9	14.7%		17,2
Answered Skipped	43 9	mean 14.7%	SD	17,2
Q24. Which departments were those doctors allocat	red to? (free text_more than one a	inswer possible)		
Answered	43	ICU		19
Skipped	9	ED		40
•		COVID-19	)	12
Q25. Estimate the fraction of doctors of your departr		COVID-18		18
	ment with reduced working-hours.			
Answered	ment with reduced working-hours.		SD	
Answered Skipped	· ·			
	43 9	mean 5,7		18
Skipped	43 9	mean 5,7		18
Skipped  Q26. Estimate the fraction of doctors of your departr	43 9 ment who have been infected by S	mean 5,70 SARS-CoV-2.	0%	18
Skipped  Q26. Estimate the fraction of doctors of your departr  Answered	43 9 ment who have been infected by S 43 9	mean 5,70 SARS-CoV-2. mean 2.1%	0%	18
Skipped  Q26. Estimate the fraction of doctors of your departr  Answered  Skipped	43 9 ment who have been infected by S 43 9	mean 5,70 SARS-CoV-2. mean 2.1%	0%	18

#### Q28. Reduction of overtime hours was ordered.

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	74,42%	32
No	25,58%	11
	Answered	43
	Skipped	9

Skipped

8.6%

10,4

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Responses

Yes 20,93% 9

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Q30. The wage agreement's legal requirements were met in doing so.

		Skipped	9
		Answered	43
No		6,98%	3
Yes		93,02%	40
	Answer Choices	Responses	

Q31. Sufficient adequate protective equipment was provided for your employees.

,	Answer Choices	Responses

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	Skipped	9
	Answered	43
No	30,23%	13
Yes	69,77%	30

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Q32. Emergency surgeries (at least N4 classified) had to be postponed due to sick leaves of employees.

Answer Choices	Pospopos	
Allswei Choices	Responses	
Yes	2,33%	1
No	97,67%	42
	Answered	43
	Skipped	9

Q33. Would you consider that not achieving your financial target settings will have financial consequences?

		Skipped	9
		Answered	43
	No	58,14%	25
	Yes	41,86%	18
Αı	nswer Choices	Responses	

Q34. Would you consider that not achieving your financial target settings will have consequences department's staff?

	Skipped	9
	Answered	43
No	65,12%	28
Yes	34,88%	15
Answer Choices	Responses	

Q35+36. Please estimate the loss regarding your financial target settings in the following aspects (in %) at this point.

Answer Choices	Responses	mean	SD	
Case Mix Points	97,67%	42 29.3%		22,9
Revenue	81,40%	35 29.3%		17,9
	Answered	43		
	Skipped	9		

Q37. The number of elective surgeries (e.g. arthroplasty) will decrease in the future.

	Answered Skipped	43	115	2,7	1,1
totally disagree	11,63%	5 total	score mean	SD	
rather disagree	39,53%	17			
neutral	23,26%	10			
Answer Choices	Responses				

Q38. Your department will have lost significance in the future.

Answer Choices	Responses			
totally agree	2,33%	1		
rather agree	6,98%	3		
neutral	18,60%	8		
rather disagree	41,86%	18		
totally disagree	30,23%	13 total score	mean	SD

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Answered	43	90	2,1	1
Skipped	9			

# Q39. Overall, your department will be weakened by the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic.

Answer Choices	Responses				
totally agree	6,98%	3			
rather agree	20,93%	9			
neutral	27,91%	12			
rather disagree	25,58%	11			
totally disagree	18,60%	8 total	score mean	SD	
	Answered	43	117	2,7	1,2
	Skipped	9			

#### Q40. Participant in leading function of the department for

Answer Choices	Responses		
Orthopaedics	27,91%	12	
Trauma surgery	18,60%	8	
Orthopaedics and trauma surgery	53,49%	23	
	Answered	43	
	Skipped	9	

# Q41. The following field is provided for further comments

Answered	2
Skipped	50

Free Text: nothing relevant was answered