

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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Title: Pain and Function Deteriorates for Patients Awaiting Total Joint Arthroplasty that has been Postponed due to COVID-19 Pandemic

Reviewer's code: 02697442

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: BSc, PhD

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Reviewer's Country/Territory: Australia

Author's Country/Territory: South Africa

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Reviewer chosen by: Jia-Ru Fan

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Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a good manuscript that is set out clearly. The finding that patients on the waiting list under 1 year were more likely to not want surgery is expected. The deterioration in patients' physical and mental health whilst awaiting TJA is of interest to the orthopaedic community. Could have the increased reported pain may have been an attempt by the patient to be prioritised for earlier rescheduled surgery? These patients are likely in the 'continued demand group'. The increased anxiety is expected. The number of patients in the receptive group is interesting. The reference numbers seem to not align correctly with papers listed (eg 15 in the paper refers to 16 in list), check all Table 1 is difficult to read. Appendix was missing so I could not evaluate questions asked.