Summary of research proposal LROI

Title:

Assessment of the learning curve of the direct superior approach in total hip arthroplasty using the Dutch Arthroplasty Register



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Abstract:

Multiple surgical approaches have been employed performing a Total Hip Arthroplasty (THA) in the Netherlands. There is however still debate about the advantages and disadvantages of the different approaches. The posterolateral approach is associated with more revisions for recurrent dislocation, but less other revisions. Attempting to reduce the dislocation risk and enhance early recovery, posterolaterally-trained surgeons have developed the direct superior approach (DSA). The DSA is a posterior approach that spares the iliotibial band, obturator externus tendon, and quadratus femoris muscle. Case series suggest DSA may reduce the risk for dislocation and enhance early recovery; contrary to the anterior approach, the learning curve seems short and safe. However these early findings have to be examined more thoroughly. This study aims to evaluate the learning curve for the DSA nationwide based on data in the LROI in patients who received a primary THA.

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