



Title Developing the Methodology and Pilot Implementation of Prosthetic

Implant Registers in the Spanish National Health System

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Aim

- To revise previous experiences in the development of arthroplasty registers at international and national levels and in the Spanish National Health System (SNHS)
- To establish a consensus on the structure, basic elements, and functioning of an arthroplasty in the SNHS
- To develop and implement a hip and knee arthroplasty register as a pilot study
- To assess the characteristics of arthroplasty interventions in the SNHS.

Conclusions and results

We identified 15 registers in other countries and 4 in Spain. Most of the registers were started by a scientific society of orthopedic surgery and traumatology and the Health Department, which is the main source of funding. Experts have reached a consensus regarding relevant aspects of the structure of a register. Patient characteristics and the rates of primary hip and knee arthroplasties vary among different autonomous communities in Spain.

The consensus among experts regarding the characteristics of an arthroplasty register, and the potential to evaluate results based on comparable information in different autonomous communities in Spain, can facilitate the design of strategies to improve the quality of health care.

Methods

Systematic review of the Web pages of existing hip and knee arthroplasty registers on the Internet and in the literature. Use of a Delphi method to develop a consensus document on the structure, function, and content of an arthroplasty register. Contact with industry to develop a catalogue of hip and knee prostheses. Use of the Minimum Dataset of Hospital Discharges to assess the characteristics of patients with an arthroplasty intervention.