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# The Knee Pain Decreases After Total Hip Arthroplasty

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# Faculty Disclosure Information

- The authors have nothing to disclose.



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# Introduction

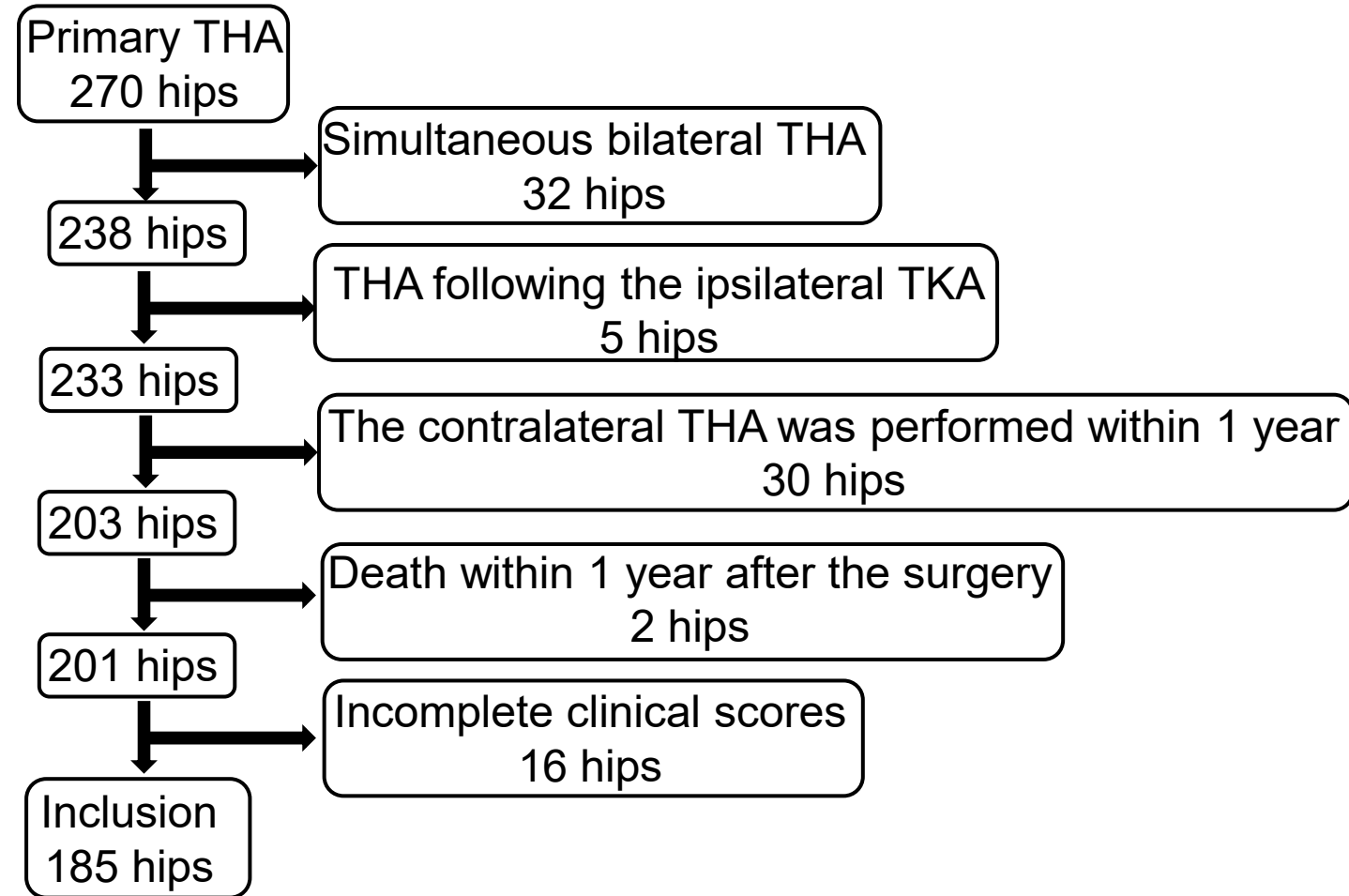
Approximately 30% to 70% of patients report knee pain before THA<sup>1,2</sup>

THA affects whole leg alignment and leg length discrepancies<sup>3,4</sup>

# Objective

- 1 、 Evaluate the frequency and severity of knee pain before and after THA
- 2 、 Analyze the factors that influence knee pain before and after surgery

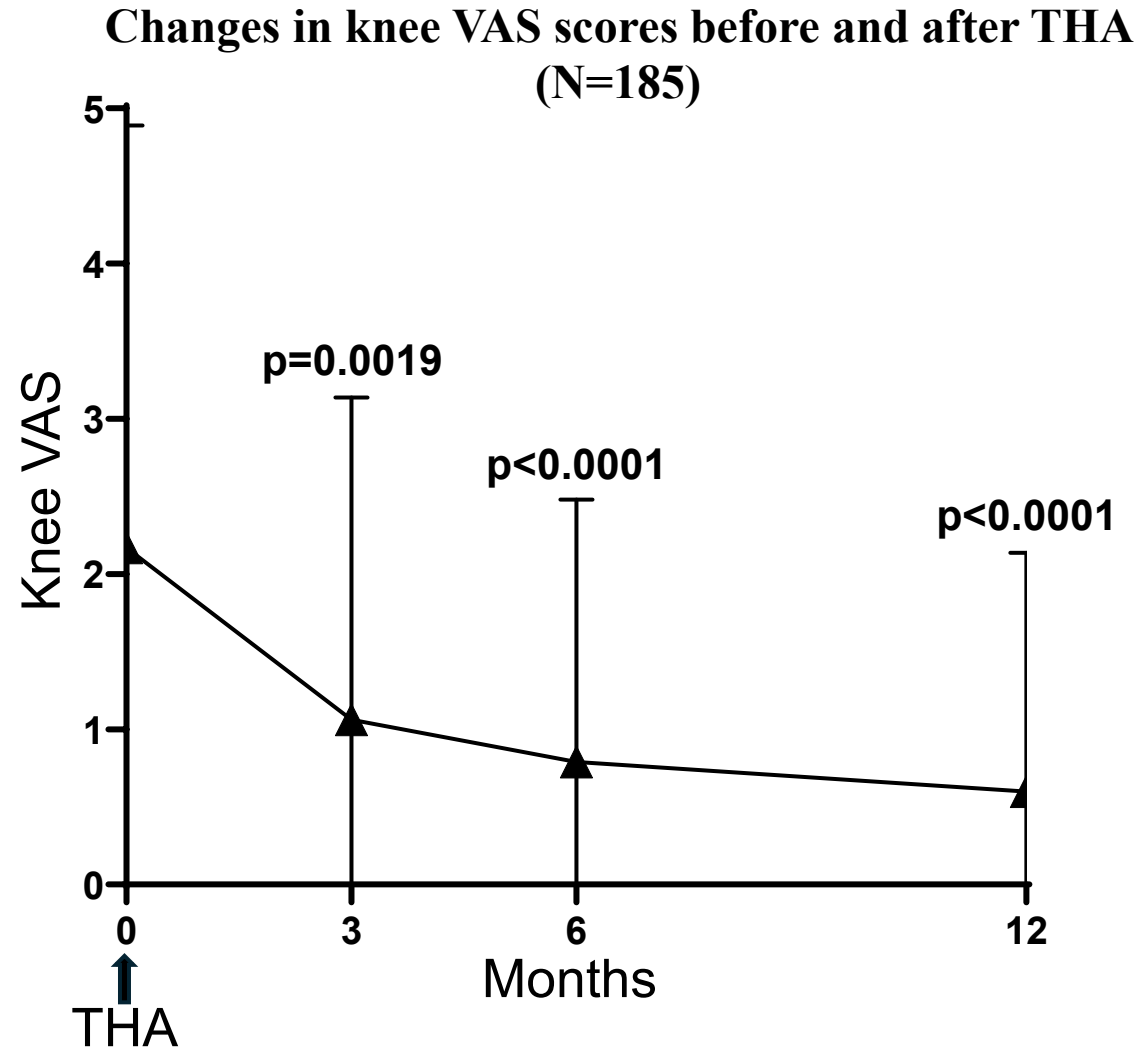
# Methods



| Demographic data of the patients who underwent primary THA |         |                        |              |            |
|--|---------|------------------------|--------------|------------|
| Age  |         | years (SD)             | 63.6 (11.5)  |            |
| Height   |         | cm (SD)                | 155.4 (8.4)  |            |
| Body weight  |         | kg (SD)                | 57.7 (12.2)  |            |
| BMI  |         | kg/m <sup>2</sup> (SD) | 23.8 (4.1)   |            |
| Sex (female)   |         | n (%)                  | 152 (82.2)   |            |
| Indication   |         |                        |              |            |
| OA   |         | n (%)                  | 149 (80.5)   |            |
| ONFH   |         | n (%)                  | 36 (19.5)    |            |
| LLD  | mm (SD) | Pre-surgery            | -8.6 (11.1)  |            |
|  |         | Post-surgery           | 2.2 (6.2)    |            |
|  |         | Δ post-pre             | 10.8 (9.5)   |            |
| HKAA   | ° (SD)  | Ipsilateral            | Pre-surgery  | -1.7 (3.9) |
|  |         |                        | Post-surgery | -2.4 (3.5) |
|  |         |                        | Δ post-pre   | -0.7 (2.4) |
|  |         | Contrarateral          | Pre-surgery  | -2.5 (3.4) |
|  |         |                        | Post-surgery | -2.5 (3.5) |
|  |         |                        | Δ post-pre   | 0.01 (1.2) |
| Type of stem fixation                                      |         |                        |              |            |
| Cementless   |         | n (%)                  | 158 (85.4)   |            |
| Cement   |         | n (%)                  | 27 (14.6)    |            |
| KL grade of the knee                                       | n (%)   | Ipsilateral            | 0            | 49 (26.5)  |
|  |         |                        | I            | 96 (51.9)  |
|  |         |                        | II           | 26 (14.1)  |
|  |         |                        | III          | 10 (5.4)   |
|  |         |                        | IV           | 4 (2.2)    |
|  |         | Contrarateral          | 0            | 36 (19.5)  |
|  |         |                        | I            | 102 (55.1) |
|  |         |                        | II           | 27 (14.6)  |
|  |         |                        | III          | 15 (8.1)   |
|  |         |                        | IV           | 5 (2.7)    |

BMI: body mass index; OA: osteoarthritis; ONFH: osteonecrosis of femoral head;  
LLD: leg length discrepancy; HKAA: hip-knee-ankle angle; KL grade: Kellegren-  
Lawrence grade

# The VAS scores for knee pain significantly decreased after THA

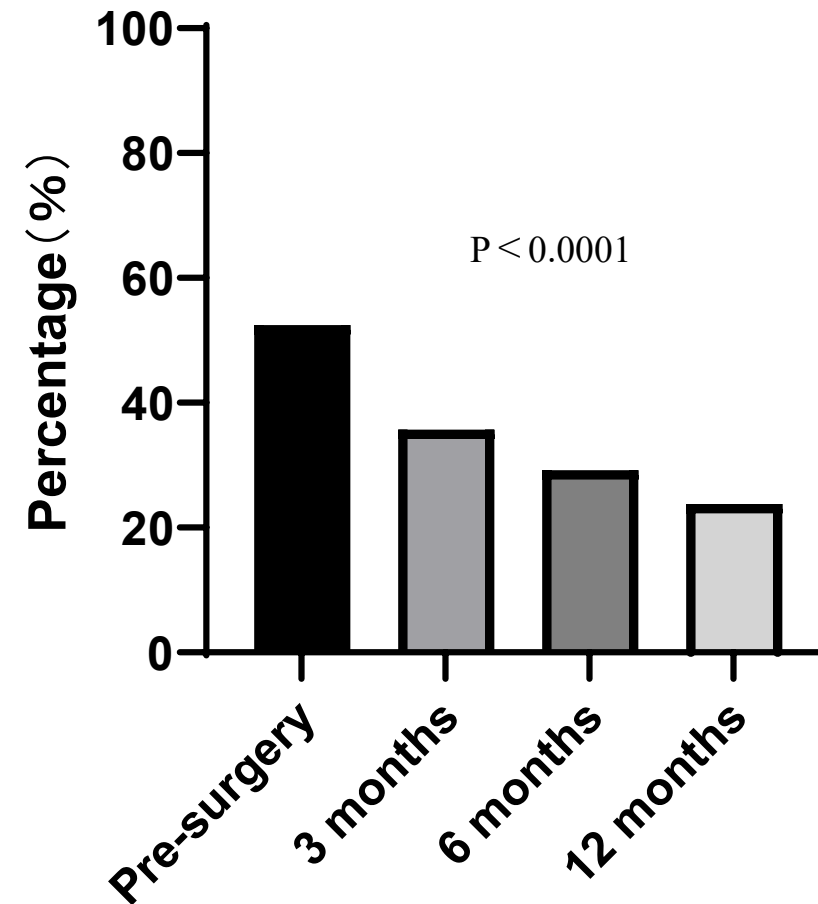


P values were analyzed by Friedman test post hoc Dunn's multiple comparison test, compared with pre-surgery VAS



The frequency of knee pain also significantly decreased after THA

**The frequency of knee pain before and after THA  
(N=185)**





# Only the preoperative hip VAS score influenced the preoperative knee VAS score

Neither the knee KL grade, LLD nor HKAA affected the preoperative knee VAS score.

## Simple & multiple linear regression analysis for preoperative knee VAS score

|   | Unadjusted                  |              |            |               | Adjusted                   |              |            |               |
|---|-----------------------------|--------------|------------|---------------|----------------------------|--------------|------------|---------------|
|   | Coefficient                 | SE           | t          | p             | Coefficient                | SE           | t          | p             |
| Age (years)                                   | -0.015 (-0.050 to 0.020)    | 0.018        | -0.85      | 0.40          |                            |              |            |               |
| Sex   | -0.16 (-0.67 to 0.36)       | 0.26         | -0.59      | 0.55          |                            |              |            |               |
| BMI (kg/m2)                                   | -0.078 (-0.18 to 0.018)     | 0.049        | -1.6       | 0.11          |                            |              |            |               |
| Indication (OA=0, ONFH=1)                     | 0.066 (-0.93 to 1.1)        | 0.51         | 0.90       | 0.90          |                            |              |            |               |
| Preoperative LLD (mm)                         | 0.013 (-0.023 to 0.049)     | 0.018        | 0.72       | 0.47          | 0.067 (-0.020 to 0.052)    | 0.018        | 0.88       | 0.38          |
| Preoperative HKAA (°)                         | -0.054 (-0.15 to 0.047)     | 0.051        | -1.05      | 0.30          | -0.10 (-0.18 to 0.033)     | 0.053        | -1.3       | 0.18          |
| Preoperative HKAA (valgus=0, varus=1)         | 0.34 (-0.53 to 1.2)         | 0.44         | 0.77       | 0.44          | 0.075                      | -0.46 to 1.3 | 0.96       | 0.075         |
| Absolute value of preoperative HKAA (°)       | 0.0090 (-0.13 to 0.15)      | 0.07         | 0.13       | 0.90          | 0.025 (-0.12 to 0.16)      | 0.07         | 0.34       | 0.74          |
| <b>Preoperative ipsilateral hip VAS score</b> | <b>0.25 (0.097 to 0.40)</b> | <b>0.076</b> | <b>3.3</b> | <b>0.0014</b> | <b>0.27 (0.13 to 0.44)</b> | <b>0.078</b> | <b>3.7</b> | <b>0.0003</b> |
| KL grade of the ipsilateral knee              | -0.20 (-0.64 to 0.24)       | 0.22         | -0.90      | 0.37          | -0.025 (-0.58 to 0.43)     | 0.26         | -0.30      | 0.76          |

Adjustment was made for the effect of Covariantes: age, sex, BMI and indication.

# Knee KL grade, postoperative varus leg alignment and the preoperative knee VAS score influenced the postoperative knee VAS score

## Simple & multiple linear regression analysis for postoperative knee VAS score

|  | Unadjusted                      |              |              |                   | Adjusted                        |              |             |                   |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------------|
|  | Coefficient                     | SE           | t            | p                 | Coefficient                     | SE           | t           | p                 |
| Age (years)                                    | 0.0019 (-0.018 to 0.021)        | 0.010        | 0.19         | 0.85              |                                 |              |             |                   |
| Sex  | 0.028 (-0.56 to 0.61)           | 0.30         | 0.10         | 0.92              |                                 |              |             |                   |
| BMI (kg/m2)                                    | 0.013 (-0.042 to 0.068)         | 0.028        | 0.63         | 0.63              |                                 |              |             |                   |
| Indication                                     | -0.41 (-0.98 to 0.15)           | 0.29         | 0.15         | 0.15              |                                 |              |             |                   |
| Preoperative LLD (cm)                          | 0.0082 (-0.012 to 0.028)        | 0.010        | 0.80         | 0.42              | 0.0099 (-0.011 to 0.031)        | 0.010        | 0.94        | 0.35              |
| Preoperative HKAA (°)                          | -0.040 (-0.097 to 0.017)        | 0.029        | -1.4         | 0.17              | -0.045 (-0.10 to 0.015)         | 0.03         | -1.5        | 0.14              |
| <b>Preoperative HKAA (valgus=0, varus=1)</b>   | <b>0.57 (0.019 to 1.12)</b>     | <b>0.28</b>  | <b>2.0</b>   | <b>0.043</b>      | 0.40 (-0.12 to 0.92)            | 0.26         | 1.5         | 0.13              |
| Absolute value of preoperative HKAA (°)        | -0.0037 (-0.081 to 0.074)       | 0.040        | -0.090       | 0.92              | -0.0022 (-0.081 to 0.077)       | 0.040        | -0.050      | 0.96              |
| <b>Preoperative ipsilateral knee VAS score</b> | <b>0.21 (0.14 to 0.29)</b>      | <b>0.039</b> | <b>5.6</b>   | <b>&lt;0.0001</b> | <b>0.22 (0.14 to 0.30)</b>      | <b>0.039</b> | <b>5.6</b>  | <b>&lt;0.0001</b> |
| Preoperative ipsilateral hip VAS score         | 0.057 (-0.030 to 0.14)          | 0.044        | 1.28         | 0.20              | 0.065 (-0.025 to 0.16)          | 0.046        | 1.4         | 0.15              |
| Type of stem (cement=0, cementless=1)          | 0.081 (-0.55 to 0.71)           | 0.32         | 0.25         | 0.80              | 0.26 (-0.52 to 1.0)             | 0.39         | 0.65        | 0.51              |
| <b>KL grade</b>                                | <b>0.36 (0.12 to 0.60)</b>      | <b>0.12</b>  | <b>2.95</b>  | <b>0.0036</b>     | <b>0.45 (0.17 to 0.73)</b>      | <b>0.14</b>  | <b>3.2</b>  | <b>0.0017</b>     |
| Postoperative LLD (cm)                         | 0.014 (-0.022 to 0.050)         | 0.018        | 0.77         | 0.44              | 0.015 (-0.022 to 0.052)         | 0.019        | 0.81        | 0.42              |
| <b>Postoperative HKAA (°)</b>                  | <b>-0.077 (-0.14 to -0.013)</b> | <b>0.032</b> | <b>-2.38</b> | <b>0.018</b>      | <b>-0.084 (-0.15 to -0.020)</b> | <b>0.033</b> | <b>-2.6</b> | <b>0.011</b>      |
| <b>Postoperative HKAA (valgus=0, varus=1)</b>  | <b>0.57 (0.019 to 1.1)</b>      | <b>0.28</b>  | <b>2.0</b>   | <b>0.043</b>      | <b>0.67 (0.099 to 1.3)</b>      | <b>0.29</b>  | <b>2.3</b>  | <b>0.022</b>      |
| Absolute value of postoperative HKAA (°)       | 0.070 (-0.014 to 0.16)          | 0.043        | 1.7          | 0.10              | 0.074 (-0.011 to 0.16)          | 0.043        | 1.7         | 0.088             |
| Postoperative ipsilateral hip VAS score        | 0.023 (-0.17 to 0.21)           | 0.096        | 0.24         | 0.80              | 0.017 (-0.17 to 0.21)           | 0.097        | 0.18        | 0.86              |
| Delta LLD (Post - Pre)                         | -0.0053 (-0.029 to 0.018)       | 0.012        | -0.44        | 0.66              | -0.0068 (-0.031 to 0.017)       | 0.012        | -0.56       | 0.58              |
| Delta HKA (Post - Pre)                         | -0.057 (-0.15 to 0.037)         | 0.048        | -1.2         | 0.23              | -0.069 (-0.17 to 0.031)         | 0.051        | -1.4        | 0.17              |

Adjustment was made for the effect of Covariantes: age, sex, BMI and indication.

# ***Conclusion & Discussion***

## **Preoperative knee pain**

Before THA surgery, 35.4% of patients had pain in the knee area<sup>1</sup>.

Sixty-eight percent of patients with femoral head necrosis who developed collapse had pain in the knee area.

Twenty-nine percent of patients with secondary DDH OA had pain in the knee area<sup>2</sup>.

**In this study, almost half of patients had knee pain before THA.**

**Only the preoperative hip VAS score influenced the preoperative knee VAS score**

# ***Conclusion & Discussion***

## **Postoperative knee pain**

External rotation and lateral displacement of the patella occurs with leg extension, and transient knee pain occurs in 7.3% of patients after THA<sup>5</sup>.

The WOMAC score of the knee decreases from 5.9 to 2.5 after THA<sup>6</sup>.

**In this study, knee pain decreased after THA (knee VAS score: 2.2→0.6)**

**Knee KL grade, postoperative varus leg alignment and the preoperative knee VAS score influenced the postoperative knee VAS score**

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