Faculty Disclosure Information

- All authors have no disclosures

BACKGROUND

- **Electronic health literacy (eHL) is increasingly important as digital systems become healthcare norms**

- **Systems are ineffective if patients lack digital literacy to use them**

- **U.S. Medicare mandate to collect PROMs for arthroplasty patients**

- **Many clinics collect PROMs electronically**

AIM: Assess eHL among elderly arthroplasty patients to determine their ability to use digital resources & complete electronic PROMs

METHODS

- **Patients aged ≥65 attending arthroplasty clinic April – December 2024**
- **Validated eHealth Literacy Questionnaire (eHLQ)**
  - **Covers 7 domains**
  - **4-point scale of strongly disagree (1) to strongly agree (4).**

Domains	Items (n)
1 - Using technology to process health information	5
2 - Understanding of health concepts and language	5
3 - Ability to actively engage with digital service	5
4 - Feel safe and in control	5
5 - Motivated to engage with digital services	5
6 - Access to digital services that work	6
7 - Digital services that suit individual needs	4

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RESULTS

- **100 patients (64% female, mean age = 74.2)**

Domains	Mean score* ± SD	
1 - Using technology to process health information	2.31 ± 0.50	
2 - Understanding of health concepts and language	2.88 ± 0.56	
3 - Ability to actively engage with digital service	1.93 ± 0.35	*Low*
4 - Feel safe and in control	3.12 ± 0.49	*Highest*
5 - Motivated to engage with digital services	2.54 ± 0.52	
6 - Access to digital services that work	2.51 ± 0.60	
7 - Digital services that suit individual needs	1.92 ± 0.40	*Lowest*

* 1= strongly disagree, 4=strongly agree

- **81 patients "strongly disagreed" or "disagreed" with ability to enter data into technology systems**

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CONCLUSION

- **There are significant eHL challenges among elderly patients at our arthroplasty clinic**

- **Patients scored lowest in domains 3 & 7 which are most relevant to answering PROMs – may result in data inaccuracies which may impact care and outcomes**

- **Targeted interventions e.g. simplified digital interfaces, support assistance, or paper-based forms, may be necessary to ensure patients can effectively utilize health resources**

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