

## Prospective study on the incidence of complications in knee arthroplasty UCAL-Spanish Association

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**Objectives:** The aim of our study was to determine the morbidity and mortality at 3 and 6 months after surgery of patients undergoing total knee arthroplasty at the Unidad de Cirugía del Aparato Locomotor (UCAL) of the Asociación Española de Socorros Mutuos (a medical institution).

**Methods:** In a prospective single cohort study, all patients undergoing primary total knee arthroplasty at UCAL in the period between May and December 2011 were included, totalizing 140 arthroplasties. A 4 of them failed to complete follow them, so that the results of 136 primary knee arthroplasties using different functional scores were evaluated, findings, comorbidities and complications encountered were described.

**Results:** The mortality at follow-up in the population was 0%. Seven patients (5,14%) had complications, including 2 patients (1.47%) who had a deep infection. The rate of readmission and reoperation of our population was 4,4% (6 patients). Patients which had no previous comorbidities were a 16,9%. The most frequent comorbidity was hypertension present in 65,4% of our patients. All patients with complications had at least 3 comorbidities. Most patients improved their functional dependence by 3% improved their quality of life by 80%, and above all reduced their symptoms especially pain by 66%.

**Conclusion:** All patients with complications had 3 or more comorbidities. In the study population 32% of patients with 3 or more comorbidities suffered any complications. There were no complications in the group of patients with less than 3 comorbidities regardless of age this being statistically significant. We conclude that having 3 or more comorbidities increased the risk of complications this being statistically significant.

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