

## Title:

Impact of the intelligent COVID-19 lockdown on the quality of life in hip and knee arthroplasty patients in the Netherlands

## Authors:

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## Abstract:

In December 2019 an outbreak of a novel coronavirus named SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) emerged in Wuhan (Hubei, China), and the following months its spread emerged to a pandemic. National lockdowns were endorsed by most countries including the Netherlands. The psychological impact of quarantine measures are thought to be profound and long-lasting (5). Hence, the experienced quality of life may be affected in parallel. Total hip and knee arthroplasty are one of the most successful orthopaedic surgical procedures with good to excellent patient reported outcomes. The present study evaluates the impact on quality of life in hip and knee arthroplasty following the pandemic and the instigated lockdown. To allow a potential impact to reach its full extent we included patients starting one week after the instigated lockdown. We included patients from the 23rd of March till the 15th of July. Collected EQ-5D scores during this period will be compared with a similar period in previous years (2018 and 2019) using regression analysis. Specific domains of the EQ-5D will be explored and analysed. We hypothesize that the quality of life, mainly in older patients, is lower during the pandemic. This provides valuable insight into the consequences of a nationwide event on the experienced outcome following a surgical intervention.

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