What is the Role of Kinesiophobia and Pain Catastrophizing in Outcomes After Hip Arthroscopy for Femoroacetabular Impingement Syndrome?



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Purpose: To (1) investigate trends in kinesiophobia and pain catastrophizing after hip arthroscopy for femoroacetabular impingement syndrome (FAIS), and (2) determine whether kinesiophobia and pain catastrophizing scores are associated with achieving minimal clinically important difference (MCID) for any of the hip-specific patient-reported outcome questionnaires. Methods: Patients undergoing primary hip arthroscopy for treatment of FAIS between December 2016 and March 2017 were prospectively enrolled. Patients received the Tampa Scale of Kinesiophoibia-11 (TSK-11) and Pain Catastrophizing Scale (PCS) questionnaires preoperatively, 6 months, and 1 year postoperatively. They also received the hip-specific patient-reported outcome questionnaires (Hip Outcome Score Activities of Daily Living and Sport-Specific subscales, modified Harris Hip Score, and International Hip Outcome Tool-12), as well as visual analog scale for satisfaction and pain preoperatively and 1-year postoperatively. The threshold for achieving MCID was determined for each hip outcome tool, and patients achieving MCID were compared with those who did not. **Results:** A total of 85 (80.2%) patients (mean age: 33.7 ± 12.4 years; female: 75.3%) were included in the final analysis. At 1-year follow-up, there was a significant reduction in TSK-11 scores (26.22 ± 5.99 to 18.70 \pm 6.49; P < .001) and PCS scores (17.81 \pm 10.13 to 4.77 \pm 7.57; P < .001) when compared with preoperative scores. 1-year PCS scores were significantly lower in patients achieving MCID compared with patients failing to achieve MCID (3.2 ± 4.4 vs 10.8 \pm 15.2; *P* = .006). There were no significant differences in TSK-11 scores between those achieving and not achieving MCID. Conclusions: Patient kinesiophobia and pain catastrophizing both show significant improvements 1 year after undergoing hip arthroscopy for FAIS. However, pain catastrophizing scores at 1 year are significantly greater in patients not achieving MCID, whereas no association was identified between kinesiophobia and likelihood for MCID achievement. This suggests PCS may be a more useful tool than TSK-11 during postoperative rehabilitation for identifying patients at risk for not achieving MCID. Level of Evidence: Level II, prospective case series

O ver the past decade, hip arthroscopy has become a routine procedure for the surgical treatment of femoroacetabular impingement syndrome (FAIS), with favorable outcomes and high success rates at short-, mid-, and long-term follow-up.¹⁻⁹ Yet, as with all orthopaedic procedures, rate of recovery and outcomes are highly

influenced by patient-specific factors, including age, sex, body habitus, and arthritic changes.^{10,11} Increasing evidence has demonstrated that outcomes of orthopaedic procedures also depend on patient psychological traits, which can affect compliance, rehabilitation effort, and pain perception.^{12,13} It recently has been shown that

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psychological factors such as depression and distress are predictors of lower preoperative patient-reported outcome scores, chronic postoperative pain, and poor outcomes following hip arthroscopy.¹⁴⁻¹⁸ However, the effects of specific components of psychological distress such as kinesiophobia and pain catastrophizing have not been widely studied in the hip arthroscopy literature.

Patient psychological traits influence interpretation of pain and adjustment to pain, which may have more effect on patient outcomes and recovery than initially observed.^{19,20} According to the fear avoidance model of musculoskeletal pain, when a patient experiences recurrent pain, they may have an exaggerated or inappropriate response to that pain, known as pain catastrophizing, which may lead to an excessive fear of physical movement arising from the belief of susceptibility to injury, known as kinesiophobia.²¹ This can often lead to avoidance of physical activity, which negatively affects patient performance in postoperative therapy and recovery.²⁰

Pain catastrophizing can be objectively measured using the Pain Catastrophizing Scale (PCS), with greater scores indicating greater catastrophizing,²² whereas The Tampa Scale for Kinesiophobia (TSK) or the shorter validated Tampa Scale for Kinesiophobia-11 (TSK-11) can objectively quantify kinesiophobia levels, with greater scores indicating a greater degree of kinesiophobia.²³ Greater levels of pain catastrophizing have been shown to negatively influence the outcome of total knee arthroplasty (TKA)^{24,25} and spine surgery for lumbar stenosis.²⁶ Greater levels of kinesiophobia also have been shown to have a negative effect on the outcome of TKA^{19,24,27} as well as spine surgery for degenerative diseases of the cervical and lumbar spine.²⁸ It has been shown that kinesiophobia also impacts anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction, with greater postoperative TSK and TSK-11 scores correlated with worse self-reported

outcomes and return to activities following surgery.^{29,30} Given that hip arthroscopy requires months of rehabilitation to achieve a successful outcome and that kinesiophobia and pain catastrophizing affect the outcomes and rehabilitation of other orthopaedic procedures, it is plausible that patients with these 2 psychological factors may not do as well during rehabilitation and thus have poorer surgical outcome after hip arthroscopy.^{13,24,28,31,32}

Although the effects of pain catastrophizing and kinesiophobia on patient outcomes are well established in the TKA, spine, and anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction literature, the effects of these psychological traits are not well described in the treatment of FAIS. The purposes of this study are to 1) investigate trends in kinesiophobia and pain catastrophizing after hip arthroscopy for FAIS, and 2) determine whether kinesiophobia and pain catastrophizing scores are associated with achieving any minimal clinically important difference (MCID) for any of the hip-specific patient-reported outcome questionnaires. We hypothesized that TSK and PCS scores would be lower, whereas hip specific patient-reported outcome measures (PROMs) would improve at 1-year follow up. In addition, we hypothesized that TSK and PCS scores would be significantly greater in patients failing to achieve MCID at 1-year follow-up.

Methods

Patient Selection

Following institutional review board approval (12022108-IRB01-CR06 Hip injury and arthritis repository), consecutive patients undergoing primary hip arthroscopy between December 1, 2016, and March 1, 2017, for the treatment of FAIS by a fellowship-trained surgeon (S.J.N.) were prospectively enrolled in the



Fig 1. Flow chart indicating patients who were dropped due to exclusion criteria and those who met inclusion criteria and included in the final analysis. (FAIS, femoroacetabular impingement syndrome.)

Table 1. Patient Demographics

	Mean \pm Standard Deviation
Age, y	33.7 ± 12.4
Sex	
Male	21 (24.7%)
Female	64 (75.3%)
Body mass index	24.4 ± 3.9

study. Inclusion criteria consisted of clinical and radiographic diagnosis of symptomatic FAIS as previously described and assessed by the senior author, ³³ failure of nonoperative management (physical therapy, activity modification, oral anti-inflammatory drugs, and for some patients fluoroscopically-guided intra-articular cortisone injection). Exclusion criteria consisted of hip arthroscopy for an indication other than FAIS, previous history of ipsilateral or contralateral hip surgery, undergoing contralateral hip arthroscopy during study enrollment and follow-up, signs of osteoarthritis (Tönnis grade >1), hip dysplasia (lateral center edge angle $<20^\circ$),³⁴ or a history of pediatric hip disorders (slipped capital femoral epiphysis, avascular necrosis, developmental dysplasia of the hip, etc.).

Surgical Technique

All hip arthroscopies were performed by a single surgeon at a high-volume academic hospital using a technique that has been well-described in the literature.³⁵⁻³⁷ In brief, standard anterolateral and midanterior portals were established under traction with the aid of fluoroscopic guidance. A 2-cm interportal capsulotomy was created and pathology was addressed in the central compartment. Depending on intraarticular findings, central compartment procedures included acetabuloplasty and labral repair. Next, after traction release, the interportal capsulotomy was extended inferiorly at the midpoint to create a T-capsulotomy for access to the peripheral compartment. The medial and lateral leaflets of the iliofemoral ligament were retracted with sutures for increased visualization. Cam morphology was meticulously resected until an adequate femoral head-neck offset was achieved. Upon completion, a dynamic examination of the operative leg was performed to confirm an appropriate resolution of impingement. The capsule was then repaired using a suture shuttling system and plication was performed depending on degree of capsular laxity.³⁸

Postoperative Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation started on postoperative day 1 for all patients as previously described and did not differ from therapy indicated for primary FAIS cases.^{7,31} Patients went through a 4-phase rehabilitation protocol that lasted an average of 16 to 18 weeks. To summarize, rehabilitation phase 1 prioritized joint protection and

soft-tissue mobilization techniques. Patients advanced to phase 2 if they demonstrated full weight-bearing capabilities. Phase 2 concentrated on normal gait maintenance, full range of motion restoration, improvement of neuromuscular control, and maintenance of pelvic and core stability. Phase 3 included single-leg squats and strengthening, soft-tissue and joint mobilization, and cardiovascular fitness. Phase 4 emphasized return to preinjury level of sports participation. Patients were cleared to return to sports if they were able to participate in sports without pain, had full dynamic functional control, and passed all return to sports tests.

Functional Outcome Evaluation

All patients were evaluated for at least a minimum of 1 year from initial surgical intervention. Patients were assigned the TSK-11 and the PCS questionnaires at the preoperative visit, 6-month, and 1-year postoperative visits. The scores of the TSK-11 range from 11 to 44, with greater scores signifying greater kinesiophobia.²³ The PCS is a 13-item questionnaire with scores ranging from 0 to 52, with greater scores indicating greater levels of catastrophizing.²² Patients also received the Hip Outcome Score Activities of Daily Living (HOS-ADL)³⁹ and Sport-Specific (HOS-SS) subscales,⁴⁰ modified Harris Hip Score (mHHS),⁴¹ International Hip Outcome Tool-12 (iHOT-12),⁴² and patient- determined satisfaction and pain score (1-10 visual analog scale) preoperatively and at 1 year postoperatively.

To quantify the clinical significance of outcome achievement, we applied the principles of achieving MCID as defined for functional PROMs. Previous work has proposed that MCID be considered a minimum target.⁴³ MCID for the HOS-ADL, HOS-SS, mHHS, and iHOT-12 was determined by calculating the 1/2 standard deviation of each PROM mean in the study patients, as described in the literature.⁴⁴⁻⁴⁶ When describing achievement of clinically significant outcome, it is generally accepted that this is defined as achievement of MCID on any hip-specific outcome measure.^{47,48} The burden of MCID achievement across all outcome measures may not be realistic, given that each outcome measure may represent a separate outcome domain. As such, patients were considered to have achieved MCID if they achieved the respective outcome end point on at least 1 of the administered questionnaires.49 Our methodology here is in line with adopted and accepted

Table 2. TSK-11 Score Averages by Time Points

	Mean \pm Standard Deviation
Preoperative TSK-11	26.22 ± 5.99
6-month TSK-11	19.57 ± 6.35
1-year TSK-11	18.70 ± 6.49

TSK-11, Tampa Scale of Kinesiophobia-11.

		Std. Error	P Value	95% Confidence Interval	
	Mean Difference [*]			Lower Bound	Upper Bound
TSK-11, 6 mo	6.3	0.73	<.001	4.502	8.092
TSK-11, 1 y	7.8	0.905	<.001	5.572	10.022
TSK-11, Tampa Sc	ale of Kinesiophobia-11.				

Table 3. Post-hoc Analysis of Repeated-Measures Analysis of Variance for the TSK-11

*Indicates mean difference from preoperative score averages.

methods previously reported and supported in the literature. ^{45,49-52}

Statistical Analysis

All data were screened to determine whether parametric statistical assumptions were met before analysis. In cases of parametric analysis violation, the nonparametric analogue tests were applied. Paired samples ttests were used to compare preoperative and 1-year postoperative patient-reported outcome scores in patients with FAIS. Independent t tests were used to compare preoperative PCS and TSK score averages between patients achieving 6-month and 1-year MCID thresholds. Repeated-measures analysis of variance (ANOVA) to assess whether PCS and TSK score averages differed over the time points, and post-hoc analysis with a Bonferroni adjustment was performed to determine significant differences within the timepoints.

Descriptive statistics for all continuous variables are reported as mean and standard deviations, and frequency statistics were reported for all noncontinuous variables. Statistical significance for all analysis was set at P < .05. All statistical analysis was performed using SPSS, version 25 (IBM Corp., Armonk, NY).

Results

Demographics

Of the 124 patients who were enrolled in the study, 108 met inclusion criteria, of whom 85 patients (80.2%) had 1-year functional, TSK, and PCS scores and were included in the final analysis (Fig 1). The patient study group had an average age of 33.94 \pm 12.30 years and body mass index of 24.37 \pm 4.05, with the majority being female (75.3%) (Table 1).

Kinesiophobia

The TSK score averages at the 3 time points recorded are summarized in Table 2. Repeated-measures ANOVA demonstrated TSK score averages were statistically significantly different at the different time points over the course of a year (F [1945] = 74.3; P < .001). Post hoc analysis with a Bonferroni adjustment revealed that TSK score averages at all time points were significantly lower form baseline (all P < .001); however, there was no significant difference between 6 months and 1 year (P > .05) (Table 3).

Pain Catastrophizing

The PCS score averages at the 3 time points recorded are summarized in Table 4. Repeated-measures ANOVA demonstrated PCS score averages were statistically significantly different at the different time points over the course of a year (F[3, 337] = 72.45; P < .001). Post hoc analysis with a Bonferroni adjustment revealed that PCS score averages at all time points were significantly lower form baseline (P < .001 for all); however, there was no significant difference between 6-month and 1-year (*P* > .05 for all) (Table 5).

Clinical Outcomes

There were significant improvements in all PROMs as well as in pain scores following surgery at an average 19.9 \pm 5.6 (12-25) months. Paired *t* test analysis of preand 1-year minimum postoperative patient reported outcome score averages for the combined study population are reported in Table 6. There was a statistically significant increase in HOS-ADL, HOS-SS, and iHOT-12 as well as a significant reduction in reported visual analog scale for pain at 1-year postoperatively.

The calculated HOS-ADL, HOS-SS, mHHS, and iHOT-12 threshold scores for achieving MCID at 1 year from surgery were 9.7, 15.7, 9.2, and 13.1, respectively. The percentage of patients achieving MCID for each PROM is detailed in Table 7. To summarize, most patients achieved the mHHS threshold for mHHS (87.3%) whereas the lowest percentage of patients achieving any threshold was HOS-SS (64.6%). A total of 55 (87.3%) of patients achieved at least 1 PROM score threshold for MCID.

TSK and PCS Scores Predictive of Achieving 1-Year MCID

Receiver operating characteristics curve analysis found that scoring a PCS score of 25.5 and TSK score of 38.5 was predictive of achieving MCID; however, both these number failed to achieve significance (P > .05)

Table 4. PCS	Score	Averages	by	Time	Points
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	Mean \pm Standard Deviation
Preoperative PCS Score	17.81 ± 10.13
PCS, 6 mo	4.64 ± 6.83
PCS, 1 y	4.77 ± 7.57

PCS, Pain Catastrophizing Scale.

			P Value	95% Confidence Interval	
	Mean Difference [*]	Std. Error		Lower Bound	Upper Bound
PCS, 6 mo	12.23	1.259	<.001	9.138	15.331
PCS, 1 y	12.77	1.468	<.001	9.154	16.377
PCS, Pain Catas	strophizing Scale.				

Table 5. Post-hoc Analysis of Repeated Measures Analysis of Variance for PCS

*Indicates mean difference from preoperative score averages

(Fig 2). Independent *t* test analysis demonstrated that 1-year PCS score averages were statistically different between the patient groups that achieved MCID compared with the group that did not achieve MCID ($3.2 \pm 4.4 \text{ vs } 10.8 \pm 15.2$; *P* = .006; Table 8). There was no statistical difference in 1-year TSK, preoperative TSK, or preoperative PCS score averages between the 2 groups.

Discussion

In this study, we found that PCS and TSK scores show significant declines postoperatively after hip arthroscopy for FAIS, whereas hip-specific PROMs show statistically significant improvement during the same time frame. 1-year PCS scores averages were significantly lower in patients who achieve MCID versus the group that did not (3.2 vs 10.8). TSK scores, however, were not significantly different between patients achieving MCID. This information suggests that PCS may have a useful role in the postoperative rehabilitation strategies for patients undergoing hip arthroscopy for FAIS.

Growing evidence shows that psychological factors such as depression and psychological distress influence the outcome of hip arthroscopy.¹⁴⁻¹⁶ Psychological distress was shown to be a predictor of worse preoperative PROMs compared with patients who were not distressed as well as a predictor of increased pain in the immediate postoperative period.^{18,53} The specific factors of psychological distress such as kinesiophobia and pain catastrophizing have not been widely studied in the hip arthroscopy literature. With regards to the current study, we found that pain catastrophizing scores at 1 year were significantly different between

Table 6. Comparison of Preoperative and 1-Year ReportedOutcomes

	Preoperative Score, Mean \pm SD	1-Year Postoperative, Mean \pm SD	P Value
HOS-ADL	67.9 ± 15.2	87.5 ± 16.9	<.001
HOS-SS	43.7 ± 24.1	73.5 ± 28.2	<.001
mHHS	63.9 ± 11.1	83.4 ± 18.9	<.001
iHOT-12	37.7 ± 16.1	73.9 ± 26.3	<.001
VAS Pain	47.2 ± 19.3	21.2 ± 26.0	<.001

HOS-ADL, Hip Outcome Score with Activities of Daily Living Subscale; HOS-SS, Hip Outcome Score with Sports-Specific Subscale; iHOT-12, International Hip Outcome Tool-12; mHHS, modified Harris Hip Score; SD, standard deviation; VAS, visual analog scale. patients achieving and failing to achieve MCID at 1-year follow-up.

It is worth noting there was no significant difference in 1-year TSK-11 scores in these same patients. This finding may be explained by the fact that kinesiophobia is a modifiable risk factor that improves with rehabilitation and surgical intervention. The lack of significant finding for predictive ability of kinesiophobia agrees with Chmielewski et al.,32 who showed that kinesiophobia is inversely related with functional level following anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction, but only in the time frame when patients were closest to return to sport (i.e., limited relationship). Kinesiophobia can be addressed through physical therapy and neuromuscular retraining. Pain catastrophizing represents a worldview and outlook and as such is likely hardwired and more intrinsic to a patient's psyche. Furthermore, pain catastrophizing may not be modifiable and persistently elevated in patients with a psychological predisposition to pain catastrophizing. The significant finding for the predictive ability of PCS supports work by Kim et al.,²⁶ who showed that PCS scores after lumbar spinal surgeries were correlated with outcomes at the time point in which the questionnaire was administered. As such, we believe that the postoperative PCS scores may serve as a better postoperative evaluation tool to identify patients at risk for not achieving clinically significant outcome after hip arthroscopy for FAIS.

The current study demonstrates the close relationship between psychological distress and physical dysfunction. Patient-reported functional scores are by their very nature are subjective reporting. Our theory is that

Table 7. Comparison of Number of Patients Achieving 1-YearMCID Thresholds

	l-Year MCID
HOS-ADL	46 (72.2%)
HOS-SS	31 (64.6%)
mHHS	55 (87.3%)
iHOT-12	41 (77.4%)
Any MCID	55 (87.3%)

HOS-ADL, Hip Outcome Score with Activities of Daily Living Subscale; HOS-SS, Hip Outcome Score with Sports-Specific Subscale; iHOT-12, International Hip Outcome Tool-12; MCID, minimal clinically important difference; mHHS, modified Harris Hip Score.



Fig 2. ROC curve analysis of preoperative TSK-11 and PCS scores predictive of achieving 1-year minimal clinically important difference. (PCS, Pain Catastrophizing Scale; ROC, receiver operating characteristic; TSK-11, Tampa Scale for Kinesiophobia-11.)

patients with psychological distress are less likely to perceive functional improvements in the way that nondistressed patients are. Although the presence of kinesiophobia and pain catastrophizing are not an absolute contraindication to surgery, they undeniably can affect outcomes. We found that pain catastrophizing has an effect on achieving MCID at the specific time point patients experience this psychological factor, but both pain catastrophizing and kinesiophobia were not predictive of future outcomes. The receiver operating characteristic analysis that examined preoperative PCS and TSK-11 scores revealed a score 25.5 and 38.5, respectively, were predictive of patients achieving MCID at 1-year follow-up. Although these values did not reach significance, they may serve as a guide to determine whether patients are at risk of not achieving MCID. However, further research is required to evaluate the predictive value of the PCS and TSK-11.

There are a number of strengths in this study. Based on the results, reduction of pain catastrophizing should be prioritized, as it is correlated with achieving MCID. Another strength of this study is that pain catastrophizing and kinesiophobia were both evaluated using validated scoring tools in patients who underwent hip arthroscopy for FAIS. As such, the PCS scoring tool may be used to objectively identify pain catastrophizing that may intervene with successful postsurgical recovery.

Limitations

Several limitations are present in this study that should be addressed. First, this study had a relatively short follow-up of a minimum of 1 year. Second, although patients were prospectively enrolled, some refused to answer the questionnaires, and some were lost to follow-up. Third, strict inclusion and exclusion criteria were used for the patients analyzed in this study, which may have introduced selection bias. Fourth, multiple factors other than kinesiophobia and pain catastrophizing can affect patient reported outcomes following hip arthroscopy. Fifth, an a-priori power analysis was not performed, so the analysis may be underpowered. Lastly, all of the surgical procedures were performed by a single high-volume, fellowshiptrained surgeon, with extensive experience in hip arthroscopy and the outcomes of this study may not be generalizable.

Table 8. Comparison of PCS and TSK-11 Score Averages in Patients Who Achieved and Did Not Achieve 1-Year MCID

	Achieved Any 1-Year MCID	Not Achieved Any 1-Year MCID	P Value
Preoperative PCS	16.5 ± 9.7	22.0 ± 13.8	.159
PCS, 1 y	3.2 ± 4.4	10.8 ± 15.2	.006
Preoperative TSK-11	25.7 ± 6.0	28.4 ± 6.9	.255
ТЅК-11, 1 у	18.1 ± 5.6	21.5 ± 12.3	.229

MCID, minimal clinically important difference; PCS, Pain Catastrophizing Scale; TSK-11, Tampa Scale for Kinesiophiobia-11.

Conclusions

Patient kinesiophobia and pain catastrophizing both show significant improvements 1 year after undergoing hip arthroscopy for FAIS. However, pain catastrophizing scores at 1 year are significantly greater in patients not achieving MCID, whereas no association was identified between kinesiophobia and likelihood for MCID achievement. This suggests PCS may be a more useful tool than TSK-11 for during postoperative rehabilitation for identifying patients at risk for not achieving MCID.

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