ORIGINAL ARTICLE



The goals of care in acute setting for geriatric patients in case of a hip fracture

Thomas Marcus Paulus Nijdam¹ · Duco Willem Pieter Marie Laane² · Tim Ellen Eloeska Schiepers¹ · Diederik Pieter Johan Smeeing¹ · Diederik Hendrik Ruth Kempen³ · Hanna Cunera Willems⁴ · Detlef van der Velde¹

Received: 6 January 2023 / Accepted: 4 March 2023 / Published online: 18 March 2023 © The Author(s) 2023

Abstract

Purpose For geriatric hip fracture patients, the decision between surgery and palliative, non-operative management is made through shared decision making (SDM). For this conversation, a physician must be familiar with the patient's goals of care (GOC). These are predominantly unknown for hip fracture patients and challenging to assess in acute setting. The objective was to explore these GOC of geriatric patients in case of a hip fracture.

Methods An expert panel gathered possible outcomes after a hip fracture, which were transformed into statements where participants indicated their relative importance on a 100-point scoring scale during interviews. These GOC were ranked using medians and deemed important if the median score was 90 or above. Patients were aged 70 years or older with a hip contusion due to similarities with the hip fracture population. Three cohorts based on frailty criteria and the diagnosis of dementia were made.

Results Preserving cognitive function, being with family and being with partner scored in all groups among the most important GOC. Both non-frail and frail geriatric patients scored return to pre-fracture mobility and maintaining independence among the most important GOC, where proxies of patients with a diagnosis of dementia scored not experiencing pain as the most important GOC.

Conclusion All groups scored preserving cognitive function, being with family and being with partner among the most important GOC. The most important GOC should be discussed when a patient is presented with a hip fracture. Since patients preferences vary, a patient-centered assessment of the GOC remains essential.

Keywords Trauma surgery · Hip fracture · Geriatric · Shared decision making · Goals of care

Introduction

The prevalence of hip fracture is increasing due to ageing of the Western population [1, 2]. Hip fracture patients are most commonly treated with operative management (OM)

- Duco Willem Pieter Marie Laane d.w.p.m.laane-2@umcutrecht.nl
- Department of Trauma Surgery, St. Antonius Hospital, Utrecht, The Netherlands
- Department of Trauma Surgery, University Medical Center Utrecht, Heidelberglaan 100, 3584 CX Utrecht, The Netherlands
- ³ Department of Orthopedic Surgery, OLVG, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- Department of Internal Medicine and Geriatrics, Amsterdam University Medical Centers, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

for early mobilisation and rehabilitation [3–5]. For geriatric hip fracture patients with limited life expectancy, palliative, non-operative management is an alternative option, which aims not to restore mobility or independence, but to focus on palliative care and pain management [5-8]. Recently, it has been shown that this non-operative option is non-inferior to OM in terms of quality of life for geriatric patients with limited life expectancy [7]. Since palliative, non-operative management is a viable treatment option, physicians have to discuss it in the acute setting through shared decision making (SDM) [5]. This decision-making process starts with the identification of the patient's goals of care (GOC) which enables a tailor-made SDM discussion considering the patient clinical and personal needs [5, 9-14].] These GOC can vary significantly between patients. For example, the urge to rehabilitate or undergo life-prolonging interventions may not be the same for every geriatric patient



sustaining a hip fracture. For oncological and chronic diseases, patients' future palliative needs can be discussed at earlier timepoints before the disease reaches an end state [15]. On the contrary, geriatric trauma patients and family members have not thought about them before being confronted with palliative treatment options at the emergency department. Furthermore, the hip fracture patient usually are unknown at presentation to trauma physicians without previous treatment relationships, which makes identification of the GOCs challenging in the relative short time window to surgery [16–19]. Since advance care planning (ACP) is often still lacking, patients have not explicitly considered their GOCs in case of a hip fracture [5, 20]. Exploring general GOCs of hip fracture patients could help physicians to discuss and assess the individual preferences for future patients at the Emergency Department (ED). Therefore, this study aims to investigate the most relevant GOCs of geriatric patients in case of a hip fracture.

Materials and methods

Study design

A cross-sectional survey study was conducted to obtain important GOC for geriatric patients in hip fracture setting. Patients with a hip contusion were deemed as most appropriate study population, because this population is similar in characteristics to hip fracture population but cannot have been influenced by experiences with OM [21]. Patients were eligible for inclusion when diagnosed with a hip contusion at the ED of a large regional teaching hospital between January 1, 2021 and September 1, 2022. The study design was approved by the Medical Ethics Committee, Utrecht (MEC-U), The Netherlands (W22.149). The Checklist for Reporting of Survey Studies was used to guide this article [22].

Survey design

The survey was constructed using Passmore's guidelines [23]. To complement the survey, an expert panel (consisting of a trauma surgeon, orthopedic surgeon, clinical geriatrician and a nursing home physician) was consulted to identify additional desirable and undesirable outcomes associated with a hip fracture. After the experts had provided possible outcomes, the results were combined into a list. All suggested outcomes were reviewed and consensus was reached between the experts. These outcomes were transformed into statements, which were organized into three themes: treatment, rehabilitation and quality of life (QoL). To ensure validity, the statement "Length of life is more important than quality of life" was added which should be scored oppositely to the statement "Maintain quality of life (is more important

than prolonged life)". As a final question, participants were asked if important outcomes not mentioned during the interview were missing. All participants received similar information before conducting the interview. The structured interview is attached as Appendix 1. Pretesting on completeness and understanding of the interview was performed by conducting the interview in three patients aged 70 years or above who were admitted to the trauma geriatric ward with a hip fracture. The pre-test patients were deemed similar to the sample population. All pre-test patients indicated the statements were comprehensible and complete.

Participants

Patients were eligible for inclusion if they were aged 70 years or above, presented at the ED with a suspected hip fracture after falling from a standing position, received imaging which did not show a fracture and were subsequently diagnosed with a hip contusion. Patients with previous hip surgery were excluded due to prior positive or negative experiences with the rehabilitation process. Patients were divided in three cohorts based on frailty criteria and the presence of a pre-existing diagnosis of dementia. Patients were considered frail if they met one of the frail hip criteria of Loggers et al.; BMI lower than 18.5, and/or a pre-trauma Functional Ambulation Category (FAC) score of 2 or lower, and/or American Society of Anaesthesiologists (ASA) score of 4 or 5 [6]. Patients in cohort A contained patients who did not meet the frailty criteria (hereafter referred to as 'nonfrail'), cohort B contained patients who did meet the frailty criteria (hereafter referred to as 'frail') and cohort C contained patients with a pre-existing diagnosis of dementia. Due to the presence of a pre-existing diagnosis of dementia in patients in cohort C, the questionnaire was conducted in proxies. Convenience sampling was used, where only patients who were known in one hospital were contacted. All participants gave informed consent before conducting the structured interview.

Outcome parameters

The primary outcome was the ranking of the most important GOC in all cohorts. In the structured interview, participants were asked to indicate the relative importance of GOC on a 100-point scoring scale, from 0 (totally unimportant) to 100 (utmost importance). GOC were ranked using medians, with the highest median classified as the most important GOC. The medians were deemed most important for the ranking of GOC. However, in the boxplots, we displayed equal GOC with a higher third quartile visually higher in the ranking when medians were similar. A GOC was considered most important when scored with a median of 90 or higher. A secondary outcome was the



extent to which our participants had engaged in ACP. This required asking, by means of affirmative questions, the level of ACP in patients.

Data collection

TN and DL conducted the interviews in October 2022. Both authors (TN and DL) had prior experience in conducting interviews and qualitative research. The answers of the participants were coded and uploaded to a secure server with a key accessible to TN and DL. Patient characteristics were collected from the electronic medical records: including age (in years), sex, presence of a preexisting diagnosis of dementia diagnosed by a physician, living situation (independent at home, home with activities of daily living care, institutional care facility), Charlson Comorbidity Index (CCI), body mass index (BMI), Functional Ambulation Category (FAC) and American Society of Anaesthesiologists Classification (ASA). From the proxies, data were collected during the interview including age (in years), sex and relationship with the patient (spouse, partner, offspring, and caregiver).

Data analysis

Continuous data were reported as median and interquartile ranges (IQR) due to non-normal distribution. In absence of relative weights attached to the possible outcomes after a hip fracture, a formal power analysis was considered inappropriate, therefore, no statistical comparison was made between GOCs. A pragmatic sample size of 20 participants in each cohort was deemed sufficient to achieve data saturation. For each participant, the range between the highest and lowest score was calculated, to assess dispersion in the valuation by individual participants.

Results

Of the 91 eligible patients, 60 patients were included, 20 in each cohort (Fig. 1). All interviews were conducted within 18 months after presentation at the ED with a hip contusion. The included patients had a median age of 83 (IQR 78–88) years, 42 patients (70%) were female with a median CCI of 5 (IQR 4–7) and 22 patients (37%) lived in an institutional care facility (Table 1). In cohort B and C, respectively, 20 and 19 patients met the frailty criteria. In total 39 (65%)

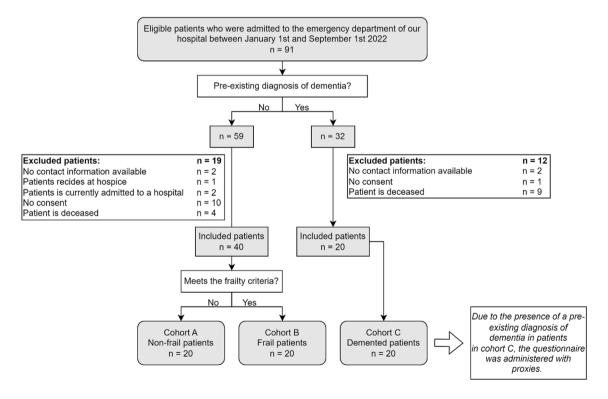


Fig. 1 Flowchart of selection process of study population. Frailty criteria = BMI lower than 18.5, and/or a Functional Ambulation Category (FAC) score of 2 or lower pre-trauma and/or American Society of Anaesthesiologists (ASA) score > 3 [6]. Cohort A = non-frail patients with no pre-existing diagnosis of dementia. Cohort B = frail

patients who meet the frailty criteria of Loggers et al. with no preexisting diagnosis of dementia. Cohort C=patients with a pre-existing diagnosis of dementia, where the interview was conducted by proxies



Table 1 Baseline characteristics of included patients and proxies

Patient characteristics							
	Total (n=60)	Cohort A Non-frail patients $(n=20)$	Cohort B Frail patients $(n=20)$	Cohort C Demented patients $(n=20)$			
Age (Y), median (IQR)	83 (78–88)	78 (75–83)	86 (78–89)	85 (83–93)			
Female sex, n (%)	42 (70)	9 (45)	14 (70)	19 (95)			
Pre-existing dementia, n (%)	20 (33)	0 (0)	0 (0)	20 (100)			
Living situation, n (%)							
Home, independent	19 (32)	16 (80)	3 (15)	0 (0)			
Home, with ADL care	19 (32)	4 (20)	13 (65)	2 (10)			
Institutional care facility	22 (37)	0 (0)	4 (20)	18 (90)			
CCI, median (IQR)	5 (4–7)	4 (3–7)	4 (4–6)	6 (5–7)			
BMI, median (IQR)	25.6 (21.7–29.6)	25.8 (22.2–29.1)	27.4 (24.1–34.7)	24.4 (20.4–27.7)			
FAC, n (%)							
FAC 0	4 (7)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4 (20)			
FAC 1	12 (20)	0 (0)	3 (15)	9 (45)			
FAC 2	23 (38)	0 (0)	17 (85)	6 (30)			
FAC 3	3 (5)	2 (10)	0 (0)	1 (5)			
FAC 4	8 (13)	8 (40)	0 (0)	0 (0)			
FAC 5	10 (17)	10 (50)	0 (0)	0 (0)			
ASA, n (%)							
ASA 1	2 (3)	1 (5)	1 (5)	0 (0)			
ASA 2	14 (23)	6 (30)	4 (20)	4 (20)			
ASA 3	44 (73)	13 (65)	15 (75)	16 (80)			
Meets the frailty criteria ^a , n (%)	39 (65)	0 (0)	20 (100)	19 (95)			
BMI lower than 18.5	1 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (5)			
FAC 2 or lower	38 (63)	0 (0)	20 (100)	18 (90)			
ASA 4 or higher	0 (0)	0 (0)	0(0)	0 (0)			
Proxy characteristics							
Age (Y), median (IQR) –		_	_	59 (54–62			
Female sex, n (%) –		_	-	14 (70)			
Relationship with patient, n (%)							
Offspring –		_	_	20 (100)			

All variables are in total amount (percentage) or median (interquartile range, IQR)

Frailty criteria^a=BMI lower than 18.5, and/or a Functional Ambulation Category (FAC) score of 2 or lower pre-trauma and/or American Society of Anaesthesiologists (ASA) score > 3[6]

Y years, ADL activities of daily living, BMI body mass index, FAC functional ambulation classification, ASA American Society of Anesthesiologists Classification, CCI Charlson Comorbidity Index [36]

eligible patients met the frailty criteria, 38 based on their functional ambulation category and one patient with a BMI lower than 18.5. Overall, 50 (83%) patients had discussed with their relatives what they would want in the event of an acute illness, and 25 (42%) also discussed treatment preferences when sustaining a hip fracture (Table 2).

Validity and completeness

Overall, the validity statement was scored 50 points lower on average than the QoL statement with a median score of 90 (IQR 80–100) on the QoL and the validity statement with an overall median score of 40 (IQR 20–60). All answers on the validity statement were deemed sufficient to include the interviews in the analysis. After completing the interview, all participants indicated no additional or missing goals of care in the questionnaire.



Table 2 The extent of advance care planning in geriatric patients

	Total (n=60)	Cohort A Non-frail patients (n=20)	Cohort B Frail patients $(n=20)$	Cohort C Demented patients (n=20)
ACP, n (%)				
"I have thought about treatment options for when I become very ill"	50 (83)	15 (75.0)	17 (85.0)	18 (90.0)
"I shared my thoughts with my surroundings"	43 (72)	10 (50.0)	15 (75.0)	18 (90.0)
"I have thought about treatment options for when I sustain a hip fracture"	25 (42)	6 (30.0)	9 (45.0)	10 (50.0)

All variables are in total amount (percentage)

ACP advance care planning

Non-frail patients (cohort A)

Non-frail patients in cohort A had a median age of 78 (IQR 75–83) years, 9 patients (45%) were female and 18 patients (80%) lived independently at home (Table 1). Median scores for the GOC are presented in Table 3. For non-frail geriatric patients, eight GOC were ranked as most important (with a median score of 90 or higher): being with partner 100 (IQR 100–100), preserving cognitive function 100 (IQR 90–100), being with family 100 (IQR 90–100), maintaining

independence 90 (IQR 80–100), return to pre-fracture mobility 90 (IQR 80–100), maintain QoL 90 (IQR 80–100), starting intensive rehabilitation 90 (IQR 70–99) and admission to the hospital 90 (IQR 80–98) (Fig. 2).

Frail patients (cohort B)

Frail patients in cohort B had a median age of 86 (IQR 78–89) years, 14 patients (70%) were female and 16 patients (80%) lived at home including 13 (65%) patients of whom

Table 3 Ranking of goals of care for all cohorts

	Cohort A Non-frail patients $(n=20)$		Cohort B Frail patients (n=20)		Cohort C Proxy-reported (n=20)	
	Median	Rank	Median	Rank	Median	Rank
Treatment of hip fracture		,				
Not experiencing pain	88 (71–100)	9	83 (63–98)	9	100 (96–100)	1
Admission to the hospital	90 (80–98)	8	83 (71–98)	8	55 (13-80)	10
Undergo surgery	80 (60–90)	11	70 (50–88)	12	28 (10-50)	12
Return to pre-fracture mobility	90 (80–100)	4^{a}	90 (73-100)	5	70 (43–90)	8
Rehabilitate						
Maintaining independence	90 (80–100)	4 ^a	90 (80–100)	4	75 (50–88)	7
Being able to walk without additional assistance of walking aids	88 (80–94)	10	83 (63–100)	7	80 (53-90)	6
Starting intensive rehabilitation	90 (70–99)	7	78 (61–90)	10	50 (19-75)	11
Admission to a nursing home	80 (55–90)	12	75 (53–90)	11	55 (21–80)	9
Quality of life						
Maintain quality of life (is more important than prolonged life)	90 (80–100)	4^{a}	83 (80–100)	6	100 (75–100)	2
Preserving cognitive function	100 (90-100)	2^{a}	100 (90-100)	1	93 (76–100)	5
Being with family	100 (90-100)	2^{a}	98 (85–100)	3	98 (83–100)	4
Being with partner	100 (100-100)	1	100 (84–100)	2	100 (60–100)	3
Validation question						
Length of life is more important than quality of life	50 (33–68)		50 (33–60)		30 (16–40)	

Outcomes are in median (interquartile range, IQR)

Frailty criteria = BMI lower than 18.5, and/or a Functional Ambulation Category (FAC) score of 2 or lower pre-trauma and/or American Society of Anaesthesiologists (ASA) score > 3[6]



^aEx aequo

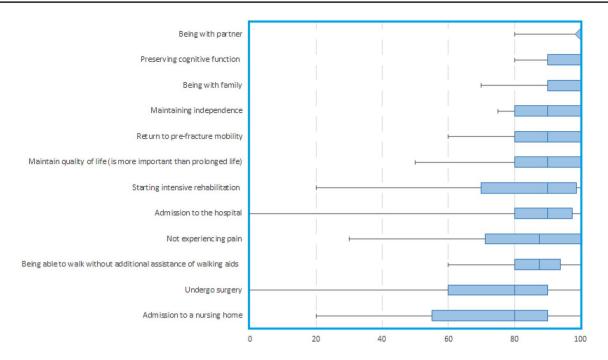


Fig. 2 Boxplot of Goals of Care of non-frail, patients (cohort A). 0 = totally unimportant. 100 = utmost importance

received additional ADL care (Table 1). Median scores for the GOC are presented in Table 3. For frail geriatric patients, five GOC were ranked as most important (with a median score of 90 or higher): preserving cognitive function 100 (IQR 90–100), being with partner 100 (IQR 84–100), being with family 98 (IQR 85–100), maintaining independence 90 (IQR 80–100), and being able to walk again 90 (IQR 73–100) (Fig. 3).

Proxies of patients with a pre-existing diagnosis of dementia (cohort C)

Patients with a pre-existing diagnosis of dementia in cohort C had a median age of 85 (IQR 83–93) years, 19 patients (95%) were female and 18 (90%) of patients lived in an institutional care facility. Proxies interviewed were all offspring from the included patients. Proxies had a median age of 59 (IQR 54–62) years and 14 proxies (70%) were

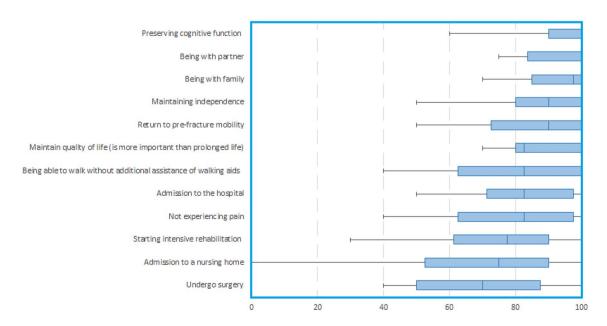


Fig. 3 Boxplot of goals of care of frail, patients (cohort B). 0=totally unimportant. 100=utmost importance



female (Table 1). Median scores for the GOC are presented in Table 3. For proxies of patients with a pre-existing diagnosis of dementia, five GOC were ranked as most important (with a median score of 90 or higher): not experiencing pain 100 (IQR 96–100), maintain QoL 100 (IQR 75–100), being with partner 100 (IQR 60–100), being with family 98 (IQR 83–100), and preserving cognitive function 93 (IQR 76–100) (Fig. 4).

Discussion

A cross-sectional survey study was conducted to obtain the most important GOC for geriatric patients in hip fracture setting. Non-frail geriatric patients, frail geriatric patients and proxies of geriatric patients with a pre-existing diagnosis of dementia all scored preserving cognitive function, being with family and being with partner among the most important GOC. Both non-frail and frail geriatric patients scored return to pre-fracture mobility and maintaining independence among the most important GOC, where proxies of patients with a pre-existing diagnosis of dementia scored not experiencing pain as the most important GOC. These most important GOC may guide a physician at the ED, ultimately allowing SDM to be more efficient for these complicated patient populations.

Preserving cognitive function scored high across all cohorts, with non-frail and frail patients scoring it with a

median of 100 and proxies scoring it with a median of 93. This reflects the results of Steinhauser et al., who described being mentally aware as highly important for patients [24]. Since patients value preserving cognitive function so highly, it is import to inform patients during SDM that there is a risk of cognitive dysfunction after surgery [25–27]. 'Undergo surgery' is scored relatively low compared to the other GOC, with frail, geriatric patients considering hip fracture surgery as least important. This corresponds with recent studies describing that GOC of the frailest patients focus more on QoL and comfort rather than physical performance [5, 28]. Similarly, proxies of patients with dementia scored hip fracture surgery the least important. Also, a recent study investigating the public's opinion on life-sustaining treatment supported this finding, in which the majority (68.9%) of the participants wanted no life-sustaining treatment for their partners in the case of dementia [28]. Relatives described adverse affection regarding suffering, decay, or pain for their demented loved ones which probably explains why life prolonging surgery is considered least important by these proxies [29, 30]. With regards to pain, proxies scored not experiencing pain the most important GOC, with a median of 100. A recently published qualitative study into the proxy-reported experiences of palliative, non-operative management, supports proxies valuing being pain free most important for the patients comfort [8]. Remarkably, not experiencing pain is only ranked 9th by non-frail and frail geriatric patients, with a median score of, respectively,

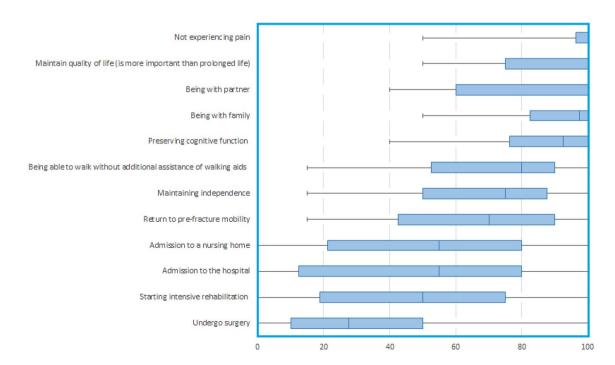


Fig. 4 Boxplot of proxy-reported goals of care of patients with a pre-existing diagnosis of dementia (cohort C). 0=totally unimportant. 100=utmost importance



88 and 83, while other studies have emphasized the importance of being pain free to maintain QoL [24, 29]. Patients clearly underlined in the interviews that pain in acute setting was expected in case of trauma or fracture and therefore not deemed most important. However, for proxies seeing their loved ones in pain could be unbearable, resulting in higher scores. In this study, 12 GOC were identified for geriatric hip fracture patients. This discriminates us from the Outcome Prioritization Tool, which was developed for geriatric patients in general. In the Outcome Prioritization Tool, patients rank four health outcomes: extending life, maintaining independence, reducing pain and reducing other symptoms [14]. Recent studies showed that the majority of patients ranked maintaining independence as most important [30–32]. In this study, maintaining independence was the fourth most important GOC. However, the Outcome Prioritization Tool did not include the top 3 GOC of this study ('being with partner', 'maintaining cognition' and 'being with family'). Geriatric patients ranked admission to a nursing home as least or second-least important GOC. Several studies have shown health expectancies of geriatric patients can be strongly influenced by several factors, for example health status of peers suffering from worse health [33–35]. Therefore, it is tempting to speculate geriatric patients do not want to be admitted to a nursing home because they consider themselves vital and independent enough returning home instead of receiving nursing care.

One of the strengths of this study was that the composition of the GOC was developed by a multidisciplinary team consisting of four physicians with different geriatric focus areas and all directly involved in the management of geriatric hip fracture patients. In addition, the GOC were patientcentered and pretesting ensured that the interview was complete and comprehensible. A hypothetical situation regarding a hip fracture was presented without the need of recalling information from the past to avoid any forms of recall bias. The validity statement showed patients understood the questionnaire. Patients reported no missing GOC at the end of the interview, indicating a good content validity of the questionnaire. The inclusion of hip contusion instead of hip fracture patients could be a limitation for assessing GOC. Interviewing hip fracture patients in the short interval between arrival at the emergency department and the moment when shared decision-making takes place was deemed undesirable for conducting an interview. Patients with a hip contusion were deemed as the most appropriate study population because this population is similar in characteristics to hip fracture population and cannot be influenced by experiences with OM [21]. Convenience sampling could introduce bias, where only patients who were known in one hospital were included. Since the hospital had a trauma geriatric unit, potential participants and date were relatively easily accessible with little missing data. To minimize the possibility

of bias from our sampling strategy, all patient were deemed eligible for inclusion within a time span of 18 months. The last possible limitation is that geriatric patients without a diagnosis of dementia could have signs of mild cognitive impairment, this study did not include cognitive assessment during the interviews and only a validity statement was included to assess comprehension of the interview.

The results of this study are directly applicable in clinical practice. Since the decision for operative management is usually made within a short period of time, implementation of these GOC during the pre-operative SDM process will allow further validation of their individual importance for each patient category. The post-operative period following hip fracture surgery may be complicated by cognitive dysfunction, therefore the possibility of cognitive decline should always be discussed with patients undergoing surgery. Since there is a discrepancy between the ranking of not experiencing pain between geriatric patients and proxies, proxies could be better informed about the expected hip fracture related pain of their relatives.

Conclusion

This study explored the most important GOC for geriatric patients in hip fracture setting. Non-frail patients, frail patients and proxies of patients with dementia all scored preserving cognitive function, being with family and being with partner among the most important GOC. The most important GOC should at least be discussed when a patient is presented at the ED with a hip fracture. In addition, since patients preferences vary, a patient-centered assessment of the GOC remains essential during SDM. Future research should perform statistical intercohort differences in GOC for hip fracture patients which could result in even more targeted tailor-made SDM discussions.

Appendix 1: Structured interview

Abbreviations

Q = Question

O = Outcome

S = Statement

 $GOC = Goal ext{ of } Care$

"First, A few general questions follow. You may answer with yes or no.

Questions regarding advanced care planning

Q1: Did you think about what you would want to happen tomorrow you suddenly become very sick?



Q2: Did you share the above with your family, or with your family doctor?

Q3: Did you think about what you would want to happen in the case you sustain a hip fracture

"Now try to imagine coming back to the emergency room after a fall, and now you do have a broken hip. I will list 13 possible outcomes after a broken hip. Please rate on a scale of 0-100 how important you think these outcomes are. A 0 can be given if the outcome is not important to you at all, and 100 should be given to the most important outcome according to you."

Questions regarding possible outcomes after surgery

GOC1: Not experiencing pain

S1: Experiencing no pain

GOC2: Admission to the hospital S2: Become admitted to a hospital

GOC3: Undergo surgery

S3: Undergo hip fracture surgery, with the risk of complications

GOC4: Return to pre-fracture mobility

S4: Return to pre-fracture mobility, even if I need surgery to do so

Questions regarding rehabilitation

GOC5: Maintaining independence

S5: Maintain independence

GOC6: Being able to walk without additional assistance of walking aids

S6: To be able to walk as long as possible without additional aids

GOC7: Starting intensive rehabilitation

S7: Start intensive rehabilitation to return to pre-fracture situation.

GOC8: Admission to a nursing home

S8: Rehabilitation, even if it means admission to a nursing home temporarily

Questions regarding quality of life

GOC9: Maintain quality of life (is more important than prolonged life)

S9: Maintain quality of life is more important than the length of my life.

GOC10: Preserving cognitive function

S10: Maintain cognition

GOC11: Length of life is more important than quality of life

S11*: Prolonged life is more important than quality of life

* = validation question, the opposite of statement 9

GOC12: Being with family

S12: To have final moments with family regardless of the length of my life.

GOC13: Being with partner

S13: I would like to stay together with my partner

Final question:

After rating all these goals of care, did you miss any important goals of care in this interview?

If so, what goal of care did you miss, and how important is it to you?

Acknowledgements For the contributions in our expert panel as a nursing home physician, the authors want to thank Barbara Hommes from AxionContinu, Utrecht

Author contributions DvdV was the head researcher of this study and made substantial contributions to the concept and design together with DPJS. TMPN, DWPML and TEES contributed equally to the data acquisition and analysis. DHRK and HWC contributed to the design of this study, in the expert panel and the drafting of the manuscript. All authors approved the final version of the manuscript.

Funding The authors have not declared a specific grant for this research from any funding agency in the public, commercial or not-for-profit sectors.

Data availability Data are available on reasonable request.

Declarations

Conflict of interest The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

Ethical approval The study was conducted in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki, and the study design was approved by the Medical Ethics Committee, Utrecht (MEC-U), The Netherlands (W22.149).

Informed consent Participants gave informed consent to participate in the study before taking part. When patients were not able to give informed consent due to cognitive impairment or were deceased, the legal representative was asked for informed consent.

Open Access This article is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License, which permits use, sharing, adaptation, distribution and reproduction in any medium or format, as long as you give appropriate credit to the original author(s) and the source, provide a link to the Creative Commons licence, and indicate if changes were made. The images or other third party material in this article are included in the article's Creative Commons licence, unless indicated otherwise in a credit line to the material. If material is not included in the article's Creative Commons licence and your intended use is not permitted by statutory regulation or exceeds the permitted use, you will need to obtain permission directly from the copyright holder. To view a copy of this licence, visit http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/.



References

- Veronese N, Maggi S. Epidemiology and social costs of hip fracture. Injury. 2018;49:1458–60.
- 2. Lyons AR, Karpf DB, Lips P, Cooper C. Clinical outcomes and treatment of hip fractures. Am J Med. 1997;103:S51–64.
- Nkanang B, Parker M, Parker E, Griffiths R. Perioperative mortality for patients with a hip fracture. Injury. 2017;48:2180–3.
- Wijnen HH, Schmitz PP, Es-Safraouy H, Roovers LA, Taekema DG, Van Susante JLC. Nonoperative management of hip fractures in very frail elderly patients may lead to a predictable short survival as part of advance care planning. Acta Orthop. 2021;92:728–32.
- Johnston CB, Holleran A, Ong T, McVeigh U, Ames E. Hip fracture in the setting of limited life expectancy: the importance of considering goals of care and prognosis. J Palliat Med. 2018;21:1069–73.
- Loggers SAI, Willems HC, Van Balen R, Gosens T, Polinder S, Ponsen KJ, et al. Evaluation of quality of life after nonoperative or operative management of proximal femoral fractures in frail institutionalized patients: the FRAIL-HIP study. JAMA Surg. 2022;157:434–434.
- Loggers SAI, Van Lieshout EMM, Joosse P, Verhofstad MHJ, Willems HC. Prognosis of nonoperative treatment in elderly patients with a hip fracture: a systematic review and meta-analysis. Injury. 2020;51:2407–13.
- Nijdam TMP, Laane DWPM, Spierings JF, Schuijt HJ, Smeeing DPJ, van der Velde D. Proxy-reported experiences of palliative, non-operative management of geriatric patients after a hip fracture: a qualitative study. BMJ Open. 2022;12: e063007.
- Bernacki RE, Block SD. Communication about serious illness care goals: a review and synthesis of best practices. JAMA Intern Med. 2014;174:1994–2003.
- Dunlay SM, Strand JJ. How to discuss goals of care with patients. Trends Cardiovasc Med. 2016;26:36–43.
- 11. Choi A, Sanft T. Establishing goals of care. Med Clin North Am. 2022;106:653–62.
- 12. Hower EG. Beyond shared decision making. J Clin Ethics. 2020;31:293–302.
- Stiggelbout AM, Pieterse AH, De Haes JCJM. Shared decision making: concepts, evidence, and practice. Patient Educ Couns. 2015;98:1172–9.
- Festen S, Van Twisk YZ, Van Munster BC, De Graeff P. "What matters to you?" Health outcome prioritisation in treatment decision-making for older patients. Age Ageing. 2021;50:2264–9.
- Jain N, Bernacki RE. Goals of care conversations in serious illness: a practical guide. Med Clin North Am. 2020;104:375–89.
- Sullivan NM, Blake LE, George M, Mears SC. Palliative care in the hip fracture patient. Geriatr Orthop Surg Rehabil. 2019;10:2151459319849801.
- Kristiansson J, Hagberg E, Nellgård B. The influence of time-tosurgery on mortality after a hip fracture. Acta Anaesthesiol Scand. 2020;64:347–53.
- Simunovic N, Devereaux PJ, Sprague S, Guyatt GH, Schemitsch E, DeBeer J, et al. Effect of early surgery after hip fracture on mortality and complications: systematic review and meta-analysis. Can Med Assoc J. 2010;182:1609–16.
- Alvi HM, Thompson RM, Krishnan V, Kwasny MJ, Beal MD, Manning DW. Time-to-surgery for definitive fixation of hip fractures: a look at outcomes based upon delay. Am J Orthop (Belle Mead NJ). 2018;47.

- Murray IR, Biant LC, Clement NC, Murray SA. Should a hip fracture in a frail older person be a trigger for assessment of palliative care needs? BMJ Support Palliat Care. 2011;1:3–4.
- Larsson G, Strömberg U, Rogmark C, Nilsdotter A. It was not a hip fracture—you were lucky this time—or perhaps not! A prospective study of clinical outcomes in patients with low-energy pelvic fractures and hip contusions. Injury. 2019;50:913–8.
- Sharma A, MinhDuc NT, LuuLamThang T, Nam NH, Ng SJ, Abbas KS, et al. A consensus-based checklist for reporting of survey studies (CROSS). J Gen Intern Med. 2021;36:179–3187.
- Passmore C, Dobbie AE, Parchman M, Tysinger J. Guidelines for constructing a survey. Fam Med. 2002;34:281–6.
- Steinhauser KE, Christakis NA, Clipp EC, McNeilly M, McIntyre L, Tulsky JA. Factors considered important at the end of life by patients, family, physicians, and other care providers. JAMA. 2000;284:2476–82.
- Kotekar N, Shenkar A, Nagaraj R. Postoperative cognitive dysfunction—current preventive strategies. Clin Interv Aging. 2018;13:2267–73.
- Li T, Li J, Yuan L, Wu J, Jiang C, Daniels J, et al. Effect of regional vs general anesthesia on incidence of postoperative delirium in older patients undergoing hip fracture surgery: the RAGA randomized trial. JAMA J Am Med Assoc. 2022;327:50–8.
- 27. Mosk CA, Mus M, Vroemen JPAM, Van Der Ploeg T, Vos DI, Elmans LHGJ, et al. Dementia and delirium, the outcomes in elderly hip fracture patients. Clin Interv Aging. 2017;12:421–30.
- Kurasz AM, Smith GE, Curiel RE, Barker WW, Behar RC, Ramirez A, et al. Patient values in healthcare decision making among diverse older adults. Patient Educ Couns. 2022;105:1115–22.
- Ernecoff NC, Zimmerman S, Mitchell SL, Song MK, Lin FC, Wessell KL, et al. Concordance between goals of care and treatment decisions for persons with dementia. J Palliat Med. 2018;21:1442–7.
- Fried TR, Tinetti M, Agostini J, Iannone L, Towle V. Health outcome prioritization to elicit preferences of older persons with multiple health conditions. Patient Educ Couns. 2011;83:278–82.
- Fried TR, Tinetti ME, Iannone L, O'Leary JR, Towle V, Van Ness PH. Health outcome prioritization as a tool for decision making among older persons with multiple chronic conditions. Arch Intern Med. 2011;171:1856–8.
- Ramer SJ, McCall NN, Robinson-Cohen C, Siew ED, Salat H, Bian A, et al. Health outcome priorities of older adults with advanced CKD and concordance with their nephrology providers' perceptions. J Am Soc Nephrol. 2018;29:2870–8.
- Frieswijk N, Buunk BP, Steverink N, Slaets JPJ. The effect of social comparison information on the life satisfaction of frail older persons. Psychol Aging. 2004;19:183.
- Henchoz K, Cavalli S, Girardin M. Health perception and health status in advanced old age: a paradox of association. J Aging Stud. 2008;22:282–90.
- Spitzer S. Biases in health expectancies due to educational differences in survey participation of older Europeans: it's worth weighting for. Eur J Health Econ. 2020;21:573–605.
- Hasan O, Barkat R, Rabbani A, Rabbani U, Mahmood F, Noordin S. Charlson comorbidity index predicts postoperative complications in surgically treated hip fracture patients in a tertiary care hospital: Retrospective cohort of 1045 patients. Int J Surg. 2020;82:116–20.

