

New CLAHRC research looks at how comorbidities – multiple conditions experienced by patients – influence referrals to, and outcomes of hip and knee replacement surgery.



Taking a 360-degree view of the referral and treatment process our researchers, led by Bélène Podmore, investigated current evidence in this area for patients with multiple conditions undergoing surgery. We examined;

- the short-term outcomes relating to the safety of the hip or knee replacement surgery
- long-term outcomes relating to the benefits of undergoing hip and knee replacement surgery.

We found comorbidities predominantly impact the safety of hip and knee replacement surgery but have little impact on its effectiveness.

Bélène also interviewed a variety of health professionals and therapists for their take on referring and selecting patients with comorbidities for joint replacement surgery. We found some disagreement among professionals – ranging from GPs to surgeons – on roles and responsibilities in the management of these patients.

The two pieces of research are presented in handy new “BITE-sized” summaries with links to full papers and further reading –

[How do comorbidities impact on the referral pathway to access joint replacement surgery in the NHS? An interview study with healthcare professionals in the NHS](#)



[What is the impact of comorbidities on outcomes of hip and knee replacement surgery? A review of the evidence](#)

