

Australian Orthopaedic Association National Joint Replacement Registry (AOANJRR) Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) Pilot Project

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Introduction

The AOANJRR was established in 1999 to improve outcomes for patients undergoing joint replacement surgery in Australia. Currently no information is collected regarding patients' perspective of their surgery. Patient Reported Outcome Measure (PROMs) are a self report of patients health status without any interpretation by others. Incorporating PROMs into population-based healthcare not only enables the inclusion of this critically important patient perspective but also broadens the range of outcomes that can be evaluated.

Aims

This pilot study aimed to assess the new PROMs data collection system to determine feasibility, quality, cost-effectiveness and stakeholder engagement as well as identify barriers to achieving a high level of data completeness and accuracy.

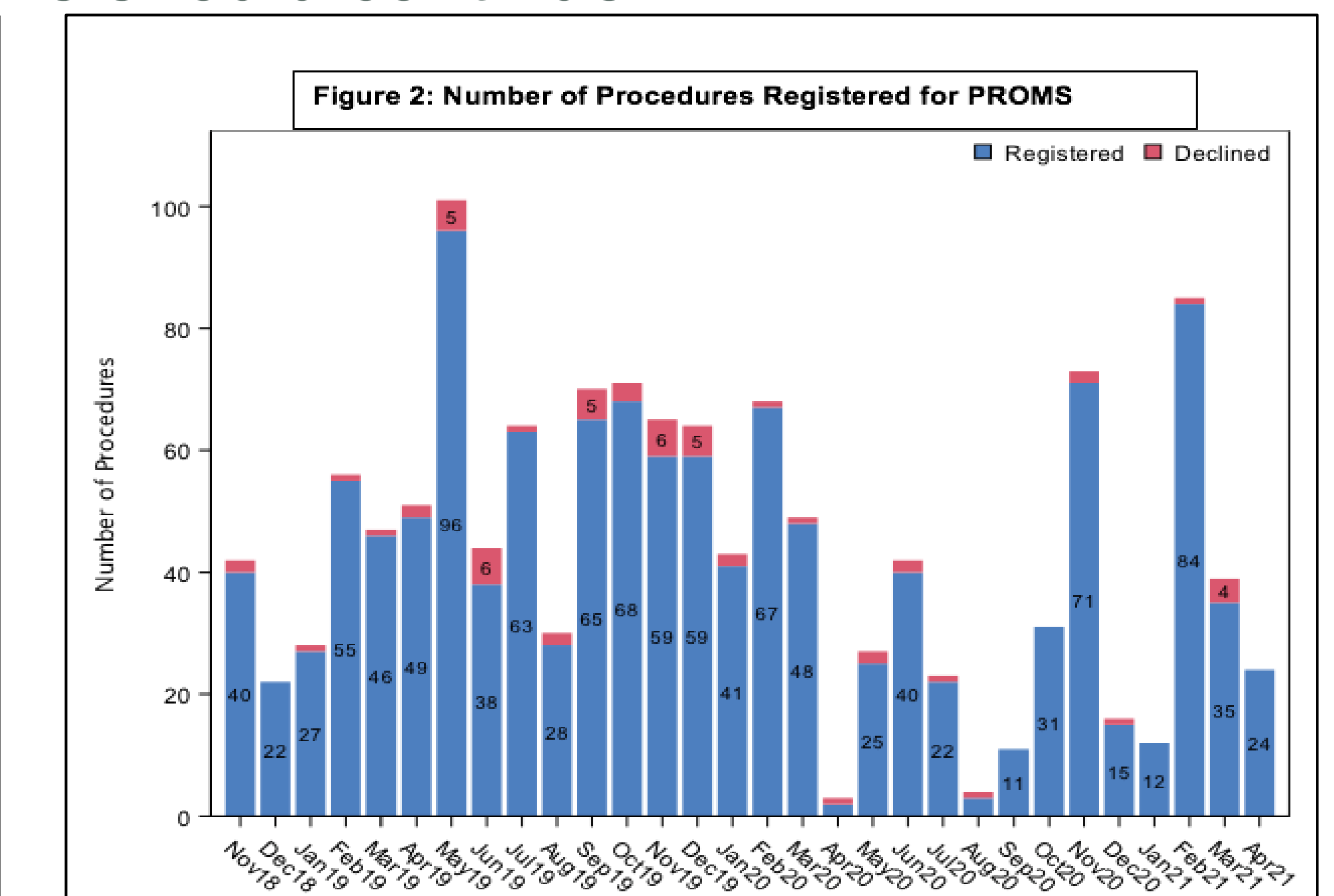
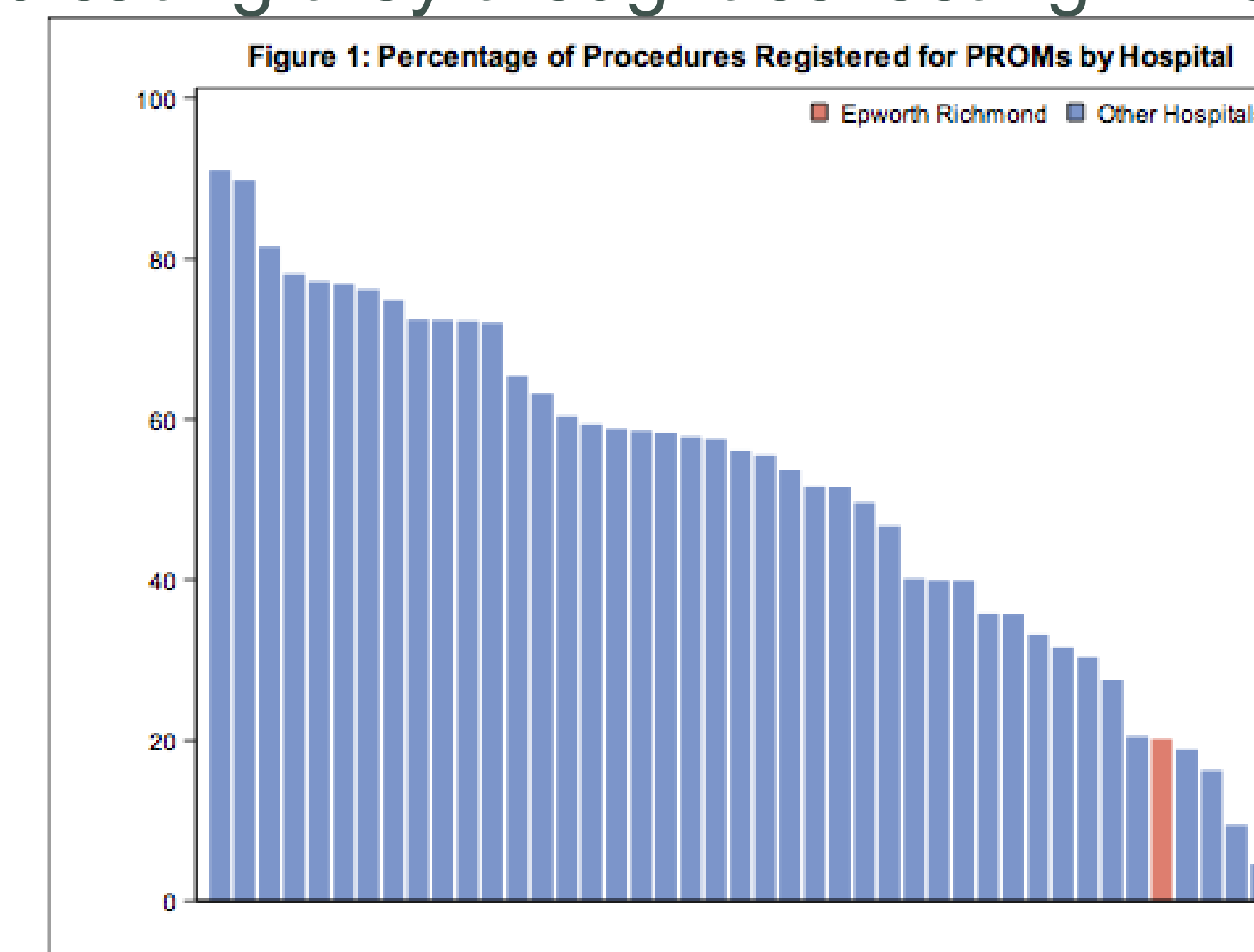
Methodology

Between July 2018 and October 2019 patients scheduled to undergo a hip, knee or shoulder replacement surgery at Epworth hospital were approached and consented to the study. PROMs were collected from the patient at two-time points, pre-operatively and 6 month post-operatively. Six months was chosen as the greatest trajectory of improvement following a joint replacement is within the first 6 months and patient recovery plateaus after this. An international expert working group was convened to make recommendations about which PROM instruments and other outcome measures were most appropriate. A disease specific PROMs (Oxford Hip, Knee and Shoulder) and the EQ-5D-5L were utilised. These instruments included questions about pain, mobility, quality of life (QoL), daily living and expectations (pre-surgery) or satisfaction (post-surgery) with their procedure.

Results

The overall recruitment rate at Epworth Hospital was 20.2% throughout the 16-month period (figure 1). Unfortunately this was quite low in comparison to other sites. However, once patients were registered and consented to the pilot study there were very promising results with 97.8% of patients completing the pre-op data entry and 79% completing the data entry at 6 months. There was a strong positive correlation between post operative patients and improvements in their QoL scores, increased mobility or daily function, reduced pain levels and therefore patient satisfaction with their surgery.

In addition to this participating surgeons and site administrators saw the value of collecting PROMs with 97.5% of surgeons and 95% of site administrators indicating they thought collecting PROMs should continue..



Conclusions

The results have highlighted the importance of collecting PROMs, both from a clinician perspective as well as a patient perspective. As well as reinforcing the widely accepted assumption that patients have an improved QoL post surgery. There are a few barriers to overcome and recommendations have been developed to improve the data collection at Epworth Healthcare. With the advent of Value-based healthcare there is strong evidence to continue with PROMs data collection.