

Bilateral Total Knee Replacements using Two Different Implant Designs - Preliminary Report

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Objectives: To evaluate the results and advantages of using two different implant designs for total knee replacement arthroplasties.

Design: Prospective randomized study.

Setting: Orthopaedic Department, SMC, Bahrain.

Methods: Between January 2000 and December 2002, nine patients with advanced osteoarthritis, with the indication of bilateral total condylar replacements, had one knee replaced with design 'A' and the other side with design 'B'.

Results: The nine patients with designs A and B were critically analyzed to compare the results of the two designs in the same group of patients by the same medical team.

The nine patients comprised of six women and 3 men with a mean age of 66.5 at the time of replacing the first knee. The follow-up period ranged from 18 to 42 Months.

All patients were satisfied and showed improvement of pain, deformity and function. The mean pre-operative scores were 48.5 and 48.3 while the follow-up scores were 89.1 and 88.7 for knees with designs 'A' and 'B' respectively.

Conclusion: The results of the knees with either design 'A' or 'B' are similar. Purchasing two designs will not affect the results, but it will reduce cost and improve technical support.