Appropriateness for Total Joint Replacement: Perspectives of Decision-Makers

Pertinence de l’arthroplastie totale : point de vue des décideurs

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1. First, about yourself. Can you please tell me your official title?

2. Can you please describe your role with respect to the delivery of joint replacement?
   a. Could prompt whether it’s related to allocating budget, planning, monitoring or management?

3. How would you define “appropriateness” for joint replacement?
   a. Clinical definitions usually talk about risk versus benefit. How does the decision-maker definition of appropriateness differ?
   b. Do you use: overuse, misuse, underuse to talk about appropriateness?

4. What role does the issue of appropriateness play in the delivery of joint replacement?
   a. If the answer is “none”, then ask why not?

5. What role, if any, should decision-makers play in determining appropriateness for joint replacement?
   a. If the answer is “none”, then ask why not?

6. What information do decision-makers need regarding appropriateness of joint replacement?
   a. Is that information available currently?
   b. If yes, where? What types of information sources are used?
   c. If no, what are the implications of not having that information?
   d. How should that information be used? Do you discuss appropriateness with clinicians to take financial decisions?

7. Our research team is developing a decision-support aid that will use both patient and surgeon perspectives to inform appropriateness. Some of the concepts to be included are pain, mobility, patient expectations and co-morbid conditions. Do you think that such a tool would be useful for decision-makers?
   a. How could you imagine it being used by decision-makers?
      i. Need to probe in terms of type of format, etc.
   b. Would you add other concepts?