Response to Letter to the Editor: Spinopelvic Alignment and Low Back Pain after Total Hip Replacement Arthroplasty in Patients with Severe Hip Osteoarthritis

Yawara Eguchi¹, Satoshi Iida², Chiho Suzuki², Yoshiyuki Shinada²,
Tomoko Shoji², Kazuhisa Takahashi³, Seiji Ohtori³

¹Department of Orthopedic Surgery, Shimoshizu National Hospital, Yotsukaido, Japan

²Department of Orthopedic Surgery, Matsudo City Hospital, Matsudo, Japan

³Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Graduate School of Medicine, Chiba University, Chiba, Japan

Dear Sir,

We are truly grateful for the opportunity to respond to this Letter to the Editor concerning our recently published study entitled “Spinopelvic alignment and low back pain after total hip replacement arthroplasty in patients with severe hip osteoarthritis [1].” First, we thank the authors for their interest in our work and for the opportunity to further explain low back pain improvement following total hip arthroplasty (THA) in patients with severe hip osteoarthritis.

(1) We reanalyzed the Visual Analog Scale (VAS) scores for low back pain and coxalgia in patients before and after THA using the repeated measure analysis of variance followed by a post hoc analysis (Bonferroni analysis). VAS scores for low back pain (preoperative, 1-month post-operative, and final observation) were 22.82 mm → 6.0 mm ($p=0.0001$) → 9.26 mm ($p=0.0017$), respectively. VAS scores for coxalgia were 63.89 mm → 20.33 mm ($p<0.0001$) → 4.03 mm ($p<0.0001$), respectively, which showed significant improvements.

(2) In our study, 12 patients with bilateral hip arthritis were operated on unilaterally. There were no significant improvements in coxalgia from preoperative to final observation in the contralateral side. Their low back pain remained after THA because of hip joint dysfunction and a further decline in the contralateral side.

(3) We have no data about the aetiology for THA like ankylosing spondylitis (AS) and non-AS. These data should be addressed in future studies.

Conflict of Interest

No potential conflict of interest relevant to this article was reported.

Reference

1. Eguchi Y, Iida S, Suzuki C, et al. Spinopelvic alignment and low back pain after total hip replacement arthroplasty in patients with severe hip osteoarthritis. *Asian Spine J* 2018;12:325-34.

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Corresponding author: Yawara Eguchi

Department of Orthopedic Surgery, Shimoshizu National Hospital, 934-5, Shikawatashi, Yotsukaido, Chiba, 284-0003, Japan

Tel: +81-43-422-2511, Fax: +81-43-421-3007, E-mail: yawara_eguchi@yahoo.co.jp