# ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# Japanese Orthopaedic Association Hip Disease Evaluation Questionnaire (JHEQ): a patient-based evaluation tool for hip-joint disease. The Subcommittee on Hip Disease Evaluation of the Clinical Outcome Committee of the Japanese Orthopaedic Association

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### Abstract

*Background* The Japanese Orthopaedic Association Hip Score is widely used in Japan, but this tool is designed to reflect the viewpoint of health-care providers rather than that of patients. In gauging the effect of medical therapies in addition to clinical results, it is necessary to assess quality of life (QOL) from the viewpoint of patients. However, there is no tool evaluating QOL for Japanese patients with hip-joint disease.

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*Methods* With the aim of more accurately classifying QOL for Japanese patients with hip-joint disease, we prepared a questionnaire with 58 items for the survey derived from 464 opinions obtained from approximately 100 Japanese patients with hip-joint disease and previously devised evaluation criteria. In the survey, we collected information on 501 cases, and 402 were subjected to factor analysis. From this, we formulated three categories movement, mental, and pain—each comprising 7 items, for

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S. Kishida Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Graduate School of Medicine, Chiba University, Chiba, Chiba, Japan a total of 21 items to be used as evaluation criteria for hipjoint function.

*Results* The Cronbach's  $\alpha$  coefficients for the three categories were 0.93, 0.93, and 0.95, respectively, indicating the high reliability of the evaluation criteria. The 21 items included some related to the Asian lifestyle, such as use of a Japanese-style toilet and rising from the floor, which are not included in other evaluation tools.

*Conclusions* This self-administered questionnaire may become a useful tool in the evaluation of not only Japanese patients, but also of members of other ethnic groups who engage in deep flexion of the hip joint during daily activities.

### Introduction

There are numerous medical evaluation tools for a variety of diseases, but in most cases, such tools are designed to reflect the viewpoint of health-care providers rather than that of patients. Evaluations focusing on hip-joint disease, such as the Harris Hip Score [1] and Merle d' Aubigné and Postel score [2], are commonly used. In Japan, the criteria for hip-joint function proposed by the Japanese Orthopaedic Association (JOA Hip Score) [3] are also widely used. However, it has been reported that the JOA Hip Score is a reliable system only for patients with osteoarthritis of the hip that is treated conservatively [4]. Moreover, such evaluations by health-care providers can be biased and affected by intraobserver and interobserver differences, producing disease-state assessment results that differ significantly from

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Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine, Nagoya, Aichi, Japan patients' perceived severity of their disease. In gauging the effect of medical therapies in addition to clinical results, it is necessary to assess patients' quality of life (QOL). Thus, in recent years, evaluation criteria that can serve as patientfocused outcome indices have been attracting increasing attention. Health-related QOL criteria represent patientbased outcome index criteria. The Medical Outcomes Study Short-Form 36-Item Health Survey (SF-36) [5] offers comprehensive criteria, and the Western Ontario and McMaster Universities Osteoarthritis Index (WOMAC) [6] and Oxford Hip Score (OHS) [7] offer criteria specific to hip-joint disease. However, because these tools' criteria do not take into account movements specific to the Asian lifestyle [8, 9], such as rising from the floor or squatting to use a Japanese-style toilet, they cannot be said to accurately evaluate the QOL of all patients [10–13].

In recent years, the Japanese Orthopaedic Association has been working on a plan to establish patient-based, multifaceted, and science-based evaluation criteria for a variety of diseases. As a part of that effort, the Japanese Hip Society has been asked to prepare criteria specific to hip-joint disease that also incorporate movements common in Japanese daily life. In response to this request, the Japanese Hip Society established the Subcommittee on Hip Disease Evaluation of the Clinical Outcome Committee of the Japanese Orthopaedic Association to draw up patient-based criteria specific to hip-joint disease with this consideration in mind. In this article, we describe the process of criteria creation, and consider the reliability and appropriateness of these final evaluation criteria. The complete hip-disease evaluation

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M. Yamaguchi Department of Rehabilitation, Kanazawa Neurosurgical Hospital, Ishikawa-gun, Ishikawa, Japan questionnaire and guide for mental-health-care providers are shown in the two appendixes to this article.

### Materials and methods

To prepare these patient-based evaluation criteria, we first interviewed patients during office visits occurring between July and September 2006 about any difficulties related to their hips. This interview was conducted by physicians or nurses with open question methods at eight university hospitals and six municipal hospitals in the whole of Japan. We analyzed and pooled patients' comments for use in preparing a questionnaire. Furthermore, we considered some preexisting QOL criteria and some evaluation criteria, such as those from the SF-36, and included some items from such sources in the questionnaire item pool. We then compiled a self-administered questionnaire for the purpose of preparing criteria and used it in a survey conducted at 12 university hospitals and 5 municipal hospitals throughout Japan from December 2007 to August 2008. Permission to conduct the survey was obtained from the ethics committee of each institution, and all patients consented to participate after being given complete information about this survey.

In order to select questionnaire question items and prepare evaluation criteria, the obtained data were subjected to factor analysis. In the factor analysis, we first identified the number of factors by principal component analysis [14], and then conducted rotation with obtained number using the Quartimin method [15]. To verify the reliability of the completed questionnaire, we calculated the Cronbach's  $\alpha$  [16] for each factor using the items applied. Statistical analysis was performed using SAS (version 9.1; SAS Institute Inc., Cary, NC, USA).

### Results

A total of 464 comments were obtained from about 100 patients during oral questioning from the interview. Overlapping opinions and those with similar content were grouped together, and a pool of 84 items was finalized. In addition, we added items based on previously devised evaluation criteria.

We then created a questionnaire comprising 58 items for the survey (Table 1). Excluding the category of "pain," which was an unnumbered item, five response categories were adopted ("strongly agree," "agree," "uncertain," "disagree," "strongly disagree") for each item on the answer sheet. For some of the items, the questions were asked twice, one time for the left hip joint and another time for the right hip joint. To assess pain, a visual analog scale was also adopted. In this survey, we collected information

Table 1 Questions used in a survey

| Item | Question  |
|------|---|
| no.  |   |
| Pain | How severe is your hip-joint pain? <sup>a</sup>   |
| 1    | Even when I am at rest, my hip is painful   |
| 2    | My hip is painful when I sit in a chair   |
| 3    | My hip is painful when I sit down on a sofa or other low place  |
| 4    | My hip is painful when I stand still  |
| 5    | I feel pain in my hip when I start to move  |
| 6    | I feel pain when I move my hips   |
| 7    | Because of pain in my hip joint, it is difficult for me to move   |
| 8    | Because of pain in my hip joint, I can't do things energetically  |
| 9    | I sometimes feel decreased muscle strength in my legs   |
| 10   | I sometimes find it a burden to walk the usual distance that I need to cover                                  |
| 11   | When I walk, I need one cane  |
| 12   | When I walk, I need two canes   |
| 13   | It is difficult for me to walk up a slope   |
| 14   | It is difficult for me to walk down a slope   |
| 15   | It is difficult to walk in places where there is a difference in levels                                       |
| 16   | It is difficult for me to climb up stairs   |
| 17   | It is difficult for me to climb down stairs   |
| 18   | When I am walking, it is difficult to nimbly avoid obstacles  |
| 19   | It is difficult to walk straight  |
| 20   | It is sometimes difficult to walk without swaying my shoulders  |
| 21   | I feel a difference in the length between my left and right legs  |
| 22   | Standing is onerous   |
| 23   | It is difficult for me to sit in a chair  |
| 24   | It is difficult for me to sit in or rise from a chair   |
| 25   | It is difficult for me to get up from the floor and tatami  |
| 26   | It is difficult for me to sit seiza style (with legs bent under<br>me)  |
| 27   | It is difficult for me to squat   |
| 28   | It is difficult for me to use a Japanese-style toilet   |
| 29   | It is difficult to use a Western-style toilet   |
| 30   | It is difficult to get in and out of a bathtub  |
| 31   | It is difficult to change my trousers and underpants  |
| 32   | It is difficult to cut my toenails  |
| 33   | It is difficult to put on my socks  |
| 34   | Because of hip-joint disease, it is difficult to select suitable shoes and clothes                            |
| 35   | It is difficult to work standing up   |
| 36   | It is difficult to work with heavy loads [using a vacuum cleaner, lifting/putting down a futon (heavy quilt)] |
| 37   | It is difficult to accomplish daily tasks   |
| 38   | Because of hip-joint pain, I occasionally can't sleep   |
| 39   | It is difficult to do simple shopping for daily items   |

#### Table 1 continued

| Item<br>no. | Question  |
|-------------|---|
| 40          | It is difficult for me to get in and out of cars  |
| 41          | Because of hip-joint disease, it is difficult to use previously<br>used means of transportation                                     |
| 42          | Because of hip-joint disease, it is difficult for me to take<br>advantage of public transportation such as buses and trains         |
| 43          | Because of hip-joint disease, it is difficult for me to continue<br>with hobbies and work previously engaged in                     |
| 44          | Because of hip-joint pain, it has become difficult for me to go out   |
| 45          | Because of hip-joint disease, I have become self-conscious<br>about my manner of walking  |
| 46          | Because of hip-joint disease, I sometimes feel that things<br>don't go as well as they should                                       |
| 47          | Because of hip-joint disease, I sometimes get irritated or feel nervous   |
| 48          | Because of hip-joint disease, I feel dispirited and avoid going out   |
| 49          | Because of hip-joint disease, I feel anxiety about my livelihood/daily life   |
| 50          | Because of hip-joint disease, I sometimes feel that life is inconvenient  |
| 51          | Because of hip-joint disease, I feel dissatisfied with my health  |
| 52          | My hip-joint condition deeply affects my well-being   |
| 53          | Because of hip-joint disease, I sometimes feel down   |
| 54          | Because of hip-joint disease, it is difficult to actively<br>undertake various things   |
| 55          | Because of hip-joint disease, I notice how others look at me  |
| 56          | Because of hip-joint pain, sometimes participation in local<br>events and neighborhood relationships does not go<br>smoothly for me |
| 57          | Because of hip-joint disease, I sometimes quarrel with people   |

for 501 cases. Regarding the replies to the questions concerning laterality of hip-joint involvement, we proposed a solution that was based on the following criteria:

- Criterion 1: The more problematic hip joint is counted. •
- Criterion 2: When problems are present bilaterally in the hips, the more painful hip joint is counted.
- Criterion 3: In cases in which no decision can be made on the basis of criteria 1 and 2, the more severely affected side is counted for each item.

Patients who were diagnosed "no problem" with respect to the bilateral joint in criterion 1 were excluded from the analysis.

With the exception of the visual analog scale for pain, each item was given 0-4 points in increasing order, starting from "strongly agree." With regard to the visual analog scale for pain, the length from the left side of the scale recorded by the respondent was divided into five stages and ven 0-4 points for increasing levels of pain, so as to be onsistent with the form of the replies to the other questions.

The scores obtained for these 58 items that could be ounded off were considered items for analysis, and the ersons who replied to all of these items were considered rgets for analysis. These amounted to 402 cases (Table 2).

To investigate the number of categories, we performed rincipal component analysis. There were six principal omponents with eigenvalues exceeding 1, and the cumutive percentage of the six principal components was 72.2% Table 3). A screeplot was prepared from these results, and e number of categories was decided to be three (Fig. 1).

Factor analysis was conducted using the Quartimin ethod with three categories. Although a few items with w commonality were seen in the prior communality stimates (minimum value, 0.404), we performed the nalysis using all of the items, and Table 4 shows the ctor pattern and the factor structure of main items that rongly associated with each item.

In view of the results of analysis of these categories, we elected question items, in consultation with clinicians, garding each factor and considered the naming of the ategories. In this way, as shown in Table 5, items were dopted for each category, and category names of movement," "mental," and "pain" were selected. The nal communality estimates of the applied items showed a aximum value of 0.825 and minimum value of 0.584. sing the items applied to the respective categories, ronbach's  $\alpha$  values were calculated (Table 6). In addition, e correlation coefficient between the categories of movement" and "mental" was calculated to be 0.66; that etween "movement" and "pain," 0.57; and that between mental" and "pain," 0.69.

## Discussion

When preparing evaluation criteria, an important first step is the creation of an item pool that will form the basis of questions from which the criteria will be decided on. Because in the present criteria, a patient-based evaluation was the main element, we questioned patients face-to-face, focusing on their own hip joint and related difficulties in daily life and then creating an item pool from patients' opinions.

Because all of the participants in our study are Japanese, we collected numerous opinions related to deep flexion and rotation of the hip joint associated with motions common in daily Japanese life, such as rising from the floor and using a Japanese-style toilet, and these were reflected in the final evaluation criteria. These items represent areas that could not be assessed in the WOMAC [10, 11, 13] and OHS [12], and thus have the important feature of including Asian

| demographic data for                                      |  | No. of targeted cases | No. of excluded cases | Total no.   |  |  |  |
|---|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|--|--|--|
| questionnaire respondents                                 | Age (years)                            | $56.1 \pm 14.0$       | $64.4 \pm 12.2$       | 57.7 ± 14.1 |  |  |  |
|   | Sex (%)                                |                       |                       |             |  |  |  |
|   | Men                                    | 78 (20.3)             | 12 (12.5)             | 90 (18.8)   |  |  |  |
|   | Women                                  | 306 (79.7)            | 84 (87.5)             | 390 (81.3)  |  |  |  |
|   | Not noted                              | 18                    | 3                     | 21          |  |  |  |
|   | Condition (%)                          |                       |                       |             |  |  |  |
|   | Degenerative osteoarthritis of the hip | 300 (75.2)            | 73 (74.5)             | 373 (75.1)  |  |  |  |
| The values of age were mean $\pm$ standard deviation. The | Osteonecrosis of the femoral head      | 61 (15.3)             | 8 (8.2)               | 69 (13.9)   |  |  |  |
| values of sex and condition                               | No problem                             | 0 (0.0)               | 5 (5.1)               | 5 (1.0)     |  |  |  |
| The excluded patients were                                | Other conditions                       | 38 (9.5)              | 12 (12.2)             | 50 (10.1)   |  |  |  |
| those who did not completely                              | Not noted                              | 3                     | 1                     | 4           |  |  |  |
| answer the questionnaire for the survey                   | Total                                  | 402                   | 99                    | 501         |  |  |  |

 Table 3 Results of principal component analysis

| Principal component    | 1st   | 2nd   | 3rd   | 4th   | 5th   | 6th   |
|------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Eigenvalue             | 32.03 | 3.62  | 2.14  | 1.52  | 1.33  | 1.23  |
| Percent total variance | 55.22 | 6.25  | 3.69  | 2.62  | 2.29  | 2.13  |
| Cumulative percent     | 55.22 | 61.47 | 65.17 | 67.79 | 70.08 | 72.20 |



Fig. 1 Screeplot. Prin comp principal component

lifestyle patterns. Notably, almost all of the questions finally adopted in the criteria were obtained by the initial oral questioning. From the viewpoint of patient-centered evaluation, the completed criteria can thus be considered to be fully appropriate.

The questionnaire used for the survey for the preparation of criteria consisted of 58 questions. Actually, we would have preferred to have used all of the items in the item pool as questions, but taking information bias into account, we decided that some of the items should not be adopted in the survey. When adopting items for this purpose, we placed special weight on the frequency with which items were raised during oral questioning, with items raised by multiple patients adopted whenever possible.

In the survey, we collected information for 501 cases, with the target participants amounting to 402 of these. Almost all of the 99 dropouts had inadequate replies; this occurred most frequently in persons of advancing age. In preparing the questionnaire, we used the large type character for easy reading and illustrated the sample replies, in addition to the number of questions, in order to take into consideration information bias. However, the burden of completing the survey might have been considerable in the elderly. The completed questionnaire was thus shortened to only 21 items and should be employed with care with elderly patients. The "seiza" is one of the common postures in Japan. However, this item was not included in the final 21 items. In the factor analysis results, seiza was not strongly associated as compared to other items. Squatting for a Japanese-style toilet requires more range of motion of the hip joint than "seiza" [8, 9, 13]. Therefore, the items of getting up from the floor and using a Japanese-style toilet will be available for including the seiza item.

In the factor analysis, the number of categories adopted was three, but we similarly investigated the scenario of adopting four or five categories. In each of these scenarios, the categories used here were expressed, whereas in the case of the remaining categories, we could not supply an appropriate interpretation and so decided against their adoption. In the selection of questions to make up the evaluation criteria, items 16 and 17 in the "movement" category were consolidated. For this reason, when calculating the Cronbach's  $\alpha$  coefficients and the correlation

Table 4 Results of category analysis

| Table 5 | Items | adopted | as | evaluation | criteria |
|---------|-------|---------|----|------------|----------|
|---------|-------|---------|----|------------|----------|

Content

| First category       13       0.628       0.825       Intribute of cate         14       0.618       0.790       Movement         15       0.669       0.856       16 + 17         16       0.659       0.848       25         18       0.636       0.841       27         25       0.778       0.858       28         27       0.900       0.821       25         28       0.871       0.765       30         30       0.725       0.794       32         31       0.684       0.805       33         32       0.828       0.772       Mental         33       0.756       0.788       47         33       0.756       0.788       47         34       0.640       0.828       47         46       0.592       0.818       47         47       0.770       0.809       49         48       0.737       0.842       51         50       0.624       0.847       52         51       0.811       0.833       56         55       0.768       0.772       54         50 | Factors         | Items | Factor pattern | Factor structure | Categories and items for each |
|---|-----------------|-------|----------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
|   | First category  | 13    | 0.628          | 0.825            |                               |
|   |                 | 14    | 0.618          | 0.790            | Movement                      |
|   |                 | 15    | 0.669          | 0.856            | 16 + 17                       |
|   |                 | 16    | 0.659          | 0.848            | 25                            |
|   |                 | 17    | 0.685          | 0.821            | 25                            |
| $\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$  |                 | 18    | 0.636          | 0.841            | 27                            |
| $\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$  |                 | 25    | 0.778          | 0.858            | 28                            |
| $ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$   |                 | 27    | 0.900          | 0.821            | 20                            |
|   |                 | 28    | 0.871          | 0.765            | 30                            |
|   |                 | 30    | 0.725          | 0.794            | 32                            |
| $\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$  |                 | 31    | 0.684          | 0.805            | 33                            |
|   |                 | 32    | 0.828          | 0.772            | Mental                        |
| Second category $\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$  |                 | 33    | 0.756          | 0.788            | 47                            |
| Second category $45$ $0.610$ $0.753$ $48$ $46$ $0.592$ $0.818$ $49$ $47$ $0.770$ $0.809$ $49$ $48$ $0.737$ $0.842$ $51$ $49$ $0.794$ $0.824$ $51$ $50$ $0.624$ $0.847$ $52$ $51$ $0.811$ $0.851$ $54$ $52$ $0.709$ $0.761$ $54$ $53$ $0.651$ $0.787$ $54$ $54$ $0.795$ $0.833$ $56$ $55$ $0.768$ $0.772$ $56$ $56$ $0.847$ $0.759$ $7$ Third category $01$ $0.935$ $0.875$ $Pain$ $02$ $0.933$ $0.854$ 1 $03$ $0.798$ $0.818$ 2 $04$ $0.752$ $0.821$ $5$ $05$ $0.771$ $0.870$ $7$ $06$ $0.824$ $0.887$ $7$ $07$ $0.833$ $0.904$ $8$ $08$ $0.748$ $0.878$ $38$ $28$ $0.725$ $0.786$ $38$ $Pain$ $0.791$ $0.846$ $Pain$   |                 | 36    | 0.640          | 0.828            |                               |
| $\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$  | Second category | 45    | 0.610          | 0.753            | 48                            |
| $\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$  |                 | 46    | 0.592          | 0.818            | 10                            |
| $\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$  |                 | 47    | 0.770          | 0.809            | 49                            |
| $\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$  |                 | 48    | 0.737          | 0.842            | 51                            |
| $ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$   |                 | 49    | 0.794          | 0.824            | 51                            |
| $\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$  |                 | 50    | 0.624          | 0.847            | 52                            |
| $\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$  |                 | 51    | 0.811          | 0.851            |                               |
| $\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$  |                 | 52    | 0.709          | 0.761            | 54                            |
| $\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$  |                 | 53    | 0.651          | 0.787            |                               |
| $\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$  |                 | 54    | 0.795          | 0.833            | 56                            |
| 56 $0.847$ $0.759$ Third category01 $0.935$ $0.875$ Pain $02$ $0.933$ $0.854$ 1 $03$ $0.798$ $0.818$ 2 $04$ $0.752$ $0.821$ 5 $05$ $0.771$ $0.870$ 7 $06$ $0.824$ $0.887$ 07 $07$ $0.833$ $0.904$ 8 $08$ $0.748$ $0.878$ 38 $38$ $0.725$ $0.786$ 38Pain $0.791$ $0.846$ Pain  |                 | 55    | 0.768          | 0.772            |                               |
| $\begin{array}{c cccccc} {\rm Third\ category} & 01 & 0.935 & 0.875 & {\rm Pain} \\ 02 & 0.933 & 0.854 & 1 \\ 03 & 0.798 & 0.818 & 2 \\ 04 & 0.752 & 0.821 & 5 \\ 05 & 0.771 & 0.870 & 7 \\ 06 & 0.824 & 0.887 & \\ 07 & 0.833 & 0.904 & 8 \\ 08 & 0.748 & 0.878 & \\ 38 & 0.725 & 0.786 & 38 \\ {\rm Pain} & 0.791 & 0.846 & \\ \end{array}$   |                 | 56    | 0.847          | 0.759            |                               |
| $\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$  | Third category  | 01    | 0.935          | 0.875            | Pain                          |
| $\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$  |                 | 02    | 0.933          | 0.854            | 1                             |
| $\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$  |                 | 03    | 0.798          | 0.818            | 2                             |
| 05       0.771       0.870       7         06       0.824       0.887       0.000         07       0.833       0.904       8         08       0.748       0.878         38       0.725       0.786       38         Pain       0.791       0.846       Pain   |                 | 04    | 0.752          | 0.821            | 5                             |
| 06       0.824       0.887         07       0.833       0.904       8         08       0.748       0.878         38       0.725       0.786       38         Pain       0.791       0.846       Pain  |                 | 05    | 0.771          | 0.870            | 7                             |
| 07       0.833       0.904       8         08       0.748       0.878         38       0.725       0.786       38         Pain       0.791       0.846       Pain   |                 | 06    | 0.824          | 0.887            |                               |
| 08         0.748         0.878           38         0.725         0.786         38           Pain         0.791         0.846         Pain  |                 | 07    | 0.833          | 0.904            | 8                             |
| 38         0.725         0.786         38           Pain         0.791         0.846         Pain   |                 | 08    | 0.748          | 0.878            | 20                            |
| Pain 0.791 0.846  |                 | 38    | 0.725          | 0.786            | 38                            |
| E ann   |                 | Pain  | 0.791          | 0.846            | Pain                          |

| 16 + 17 | It is difficult for me to climb up and down stairs   |
|---------|--|
| 25      | It is difficult for me to get up from the floor<br>and tatami  |
| 27      | It is difficult for me to squat  |
| 28      | It is difficult for me to use a Japanese-style toilet  |
| 30      | It is difficult to get in and out of a bathtub   |
| 32      | It is difficult to cut my toenails   |
| 33      | It is difficult to put on my socks   |
| Iental  |  |
| 47      | Because of hip-joint disease, I sometimes get irritated or feel nervous  |
| 48      | Because of hip-joint disease, I feel dispirited and avoid going out  |
| 49      | Because of hip-joint disease, I feel anxiety about my livelihood/daily life  |
| 51      | Because of hip-joint disease, I feel dissatisfied with my health   |
| 52      | My hip-joint condition deeply affects my well-<br>being  |
| 54      | Because of hip-joint disease, it is difficult for<br>me to actively undertake various things   |
| 56      | Because of hip-joint pain, sometimes<br>participation in local events and<br>neighborhood relationships does not go<br>smoothly for me |
| ain     |  |
| 1       | Even when I am at rest, my hip is painful  |
| 2       | My hip is painful when I sit in a chair  |
| 5       | I feel pain in my hip when I start to move   |
| 7       | Because of pain in my hip joint, it is difficult for me to move  |
| 8       | Because of pain in my hip joint, I can't do things energetically   |
| 38      | Because of hip-joint pain, I occasionally can't sleep  |
| Pain    | How severe is your hip-joint pain? (visual analog scale)   |
|         |  |

coefficients between each pair of categories, we adopted the lower of the scores for items 16 and 17.

Cronbach's  $\alpha$  coefficients reflect the reliability of the evaluation criteria according to the adopted questions, and a Cronbach's  $\alpha \ge 0.70$  was considered to indicate that a scale had internal-consistency reliability [17, 18]. In each case, the Cronbach's  $\alpha$  values were high, confirming sufficient reliability for these criteria. A self-administered patient-based questionnaire for hip-joint disease, the Japanese Hip-Disease Evaluation Questionnaire (JHEQ),

Table 6 Reliability of each category

| Categories | Cronbach's $\alpha$ coefficients |
|------------|----------------------------------|
| Movement   | 0.93                             |
| Mental     | 0.93                             |
| Pain       | 0.95                             |

was established through this process (Appendix 1). A guide for mental-health-care providers using the JHEQ was also developed (Appendix 2).

Because the JHEO takes into account facets of the Asian lifestyle, it may help improve the assessment of QOL for Asian patients. At the same time, the JHEQ can also be useful in Western populations for evaluating patients who frequently engage in deep flexion of the hip joint. The JHEO also makes possible preoperative and postoperative evaluation of factors that formerly were not be assessed. For example, after total hip arthroplasty it will now be possible to assess mental aspects such as anxiety associated with clinical events such as dislocation and reimplantation. Similarly, these criteria may facilitate investigations into differences in patient-based evaluations in those undergoing joint-preserving surgery with osteotomy and arthroscopy as compared with total hip arthroplasty. Issues still to be resolved include the fact that no comparison has yet been performed with evaluation criteria already in use. Additional studies are required to compare the JHEQ with the JOA Hip Score, the Harris Hip Score, the SF-36, and the WOMAC.

The Japanese Orthopedic Association Hip Disease Evaluation Questionnaire and guidelines, which are provided in the Appendix, were written originally in Japanese. After translation into English by qualified specialists, they were then back-translated into Japanese to confirm the accuracy of the English translation.

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**Conflict of interest** No conflict of interest related to this research has been declared by the authors.

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Appendix 1

# Japanese Orthopedic Association Hip Disease Evaluation Questionnaire

The following questionnaire asks you to describe your hip-joint condition, including difficulties you may encounter in daily life. Your honest appraisals will help us improve treatment for patients in the future. Thank you for taking the time to fill out this questionnaire.

### Guidelines

- 1 Please make sure that your answers to the questions pertain to your hip-joint condition within the past 3 months.
- 2 Please refer to the examples below in answering the questions.
- (3) Please try answer all questions. However, if you find some questions difficult to answer, you may skip them.
- (4) In this questionnaire, there are two types of questions:
  - I. The first type asks you to place an X on a line to indicate your answer.
  - II. The second type asks you place a check mark in the box that applies to you.

# **Type I Question Example.**

# <Important Point>

Place an X on the line that corresponds to your answer.

|                | Good Examples |              |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| No pain at all |               | Maximum pain |
| ж              |               |              |
| No pain at all |               | Maximum pain |
| <b>F</b>       | ×             | i            |
|                |               |              |

In this case the X is not on the line, but beside or above it.

|                | Bad Examples |              |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| No pain at all |              | Maximum pain |
| × —            |              |              |
| No pain at all |              | Maximum pain |
| <b>F</b>       | X            |              |
|                |              |              |

# **Type II Question Example**

# <Important Point>

Please check ONE box that most applies to you.

| Good example:<br>1 box is checked.<br>Bad example:<br>2 boxes are checked. |  | Strongly Agree | Agree | Uncertain | Disagree | Strongly Disagree |
|--|--|----------------|-------|-----------|----------|-------------------|
| Good<br>example  | Even when I am at rest, my hip is painful. |                |       |           |          |                   |
| Bad<br>example   | Even when I am at rest, my hip is painful. |                |       |           |          |                   |
|  |  |                |       |           |          |                   |

## The Questionnaire Begins Here

\*Please respond regarding your current (within the last 3 months) hip condition.

1. In general, rate your current level of satisfaction as it pertains to your hip condition.

Place an X on the continuum, where the left side represents complete satisfaction and the right represents complete dissatisfaction.

| Complete Satisfaction | <b>Complete Dissatisfaction</b> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
|                       |                                 |

2. How severe is your hip pain?

Place an X on the continuum of pain, where the left side represents no pain at all and the right side represents maximum pain.

# <Right Side Hip>

| No Pain<br>at all            | Maximum<br>Pain |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| l                            | 1               |
| <left hip="" side=""></left> |                 |
| No Pain                      | Maximum         |
| at all                       | Pain            |
| H                            |                 |

Deringer

|   |       | Strongly Agree | Agree | Uncertain | Disagree | Strongly Disagree |
|---|-------|----------------|-------|-----------|----------|-------------------|
| <b>1.</b> Even when I am at rest, my hip is painful.                      | Right |                |       |           |          |                   |
| -   | Left  |                |       |           |          |                   |
| <b>2.</b> My hip is painful when I sit in a chair.                        | Right |                |       |           |          |                   |
|   | Left  |                |       |           |          |                   |
| <b>3.</b> I feel pain in my hip when I start to move                      | Right |                |       |           |          |                   |
|   | Left  |                |       |           |          |                   |
| <b>4.</b> I cannot move my hip joint freely because of the pain.          | Right |                |       |           |          |                   |
|   | Left  |                |       |           |          |                   |
| <b>5.</b> The pain in my hip joint prevents me from moving with strength. | Right |                |       |           |          |                   |
|   | Left  |                |       |           |          |                   |
| 6. Because of hip-joint pain, I occasionally cannot sleep well.           | Right |                |       |           |          |                   |
|   | Left  |                |       |           |          |                   |
| 7. It is difficult for me to climb up and down stairs.                    |       |                |       |           |          |                   |
| 8. It is difficult for me to get up from the floor and tatami.            |       |                |       |           |          |                   |
| 9. It is difficult for me to squat.                                       |       |                |       |           |          |                   |
| <b>10.</b> It is difficult for me to use a Japanese-style toilet.         |       |                |       |           |          |                   |

Please place a check mark in the box for each question that applies to you.

|   |        | Strongly Agree | Agree | Uncertain | Disagree | Strongly Disagree |
|---|--------|----------------|-------|-----------|----------|-------------------|
| <b>11.</b> It is difficult to get in and out of a bathtub.  |        |                |       |           |          |                   |
| <b>12.</b> It is difficult to cut my toenails.  | Right  |                |       |           |          |                   |
|   | Left   |                |       |           |          |                   |
| <b>13.</b> It is difficult to put on my socks.  | Right  |                |       |           |          |                   |
|   | Left   |                |       |           |          |                   |
| <b>14.</b> Because of hip-joint disease, I sometimes get irritated or feel nervous.   |        |                |       |           |          |                   |
| <b>15.</b> Because of hip-joint disease, I feel dispirited and avoid going out.   |        |                |       |           |          |                   |
| <b>16.</b> Because of hip-joint disease, I feel anxiety about my livelihood/daily life.   |        |                |       |           |          |                   |
| <b>17.</b> Because of hip-joint disease, I feel dissatisfied with my health.  |        |                |       |           |          |                   |
| <b>18.</b> My hip-joint condition deeply affects my well-being.   |        |                |       |           |          |                   |
| <b>19.</b> Because of hip joint disease, it is difficult for me to actively undertake various things.                                     |        |                |       |           |          |                   |
| <b>20.</b> Because of hip-joint pain, sometimes participation in local events and neighborhood relationships does not go smoothly for me. |        |                |       |           |          |                   |
| Thank you for completing this questionn   | laire. |                |       |           |          |                   |

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# Japanese Orthopaedic Association Hip-Disease Evaluation Questionnaire (JHEQ) Guide for Mental-Health-Care Providers

The JHEQ was created by the Subcommittee on Hip Disease Evaluation of the Clinical Outcome Committee of the Japanese Orthopaedic Association. The title, methods for completion, and scoring methods of the JHEQ described below have been prescribed by the subcommittee. The change of the JHEQ without permission is prohibited.

# I. Title

The official English name of this questionnaire is the Japanese Orthopaedic Association Hip-Disease Evaluation Questionnaire (JHEQ).

# **II.** Completing the JHEQ

- 1. JHEQ completion is based on patients' self-reports or those of guardians caring for patients. It is not desirable for health-care providers to assist patients in completing this questionnaire except in circumstances where
- 1) Patients require clarification regarding the contents of the question
- 2) Patients possess a physical disability that impairs their ability to perform the questionnaire independently
- Patients mistakenly enter incorrect data (e.g., visual analog scale [VAS], double-answering)
- 4) A health-care provider determines that additional assistance is required
- 2. Health-care providers should not reveal questionnaire category names or scores to patients who complete the JHEQ.

# III. JHEQ Items

- 1. Items in the JHEQ consist of factors relating to the patients' hip joints, hip-joint condition (using the VAS), pain, movement, and mental status.
  - 1) Concerning the first question, "In general, rate your current level of satisfaction as it pertains to your hip condition":
    - On the scoring sheet, this question is labeled "HIP-JOINT CONDITION." In assessing the patient's hip-joint condition, a 100-mm VAS is used. It is a numeric value measured and reported in millimeters (round up). This assessment is an independent factor and is not to be part of the JHEQ score.
- 2) Concerning the second question, "How severe is your hip-joint pain?"
  - On the scoring sheet, this question is labeled "VAS," under the Pain category. A 100-mm VAS was adapted for this score, which is part of the Pain category. The patient's right side and left side are to be assessed separately. Measuring from the left side of the VAS index, millimeters are converted to points as follows:

Up to 20 mm = 4 points Between 21 mm and 40 mm= 3 points Between 41 mm and 60 mm = 2 points Between 61 mm and 80 mm = 1 point More than 80 mm = 0 points 3)

- 2. Scoring procedures for Pain, Movement, and Mental categories
- 1) Patients' answers—strongly agree, agree, uncertain, disagree, and strongly disagree—are scored as 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4 points, respectively.
- 2) The total score in each category is defined as a score of each category. Possible scores range from 0 to 28 points. A total score of the VAS for pain and questions 1 to 20 is defined as the JHEQ score. The JHEQ score ranges from 0 to 84 points.
- The scoring obeys the following criteria. Criterion 1: The JHEQ score is adopted the score in the side of the hip joint with problems. Criterion 2: When a patient has problems on her/his both hip joints, the JHEO
  - score is adopted for the side of the hip joint with the greater pain. Criterion 3: When the side of the hip joint is not decided by criteria 1 and 2, the lower point in each questionnaire is adopted.
- 4) Health-care providers can use the Japanese Orthopaedic Association Hip Disease Evaluation Questionnaire (JHEQ) Index Score Sheet as a tool for scoring each category and the JHEQ.

# Japanese Orthopaedic Association Hip-Disease Evaluation Questionnaire (JHEQ) Index Score Sheet

| HIP-JOINT CONDIT       | ION  |      |   |   | VAS |        | mm   |     |
|------------------------|------|------|---|---|-----|--------|------|-----|
| PAIN + MO              | OVEN | /IEN | T |   | +   | MENTAL | =    | /84 |
| <u>PAIN (0-28)</u>     |      |      |   |   |     |        |      |     |
| VAS                    | 0    | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4   |        |      |     |
| Q 1                    | 0    | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4   |        |      |     |
| Q 2                    | 0    | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4   |        |      |     |
| Q 3                    | 0    | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4   |        |      |     |
| Q 4                    | 0    | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4   |        |      |     |
| Q 5                    | 0    | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4   |        |      |     |
| Q 6                    | 0    | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4   |        | / 28 |     |
| <b>MOVEMENT (0-28)</b> |      |      |   |   |     |        |      |     |
| Q 7                    | 0    | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4   |        |      |     |
| Q 8                    | 0    | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4   |        |      |     |
| Q 9                    | 0    | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4   |        |      |     |
| Q 10                   | 0    | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4   |        |      |     |
| Q 11                   | 0    | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4   |        |      |     |
| Q 12                   | 0    | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4   |        |      |     |
| Q 13                   | 0    | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4   |        | / 28 |     |
| MENTAL (0-28)          |      |      |   |   |     |        |      |     |
| Q 14                   | 0    | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4   |        |      |     |
| Q 15                   | 0    | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4   |        |      |     |
| Q 16                   | 0    | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4   |        |      |     |
| Q 17                   | 0    | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4   |        |      |     |
| Q 18                   | 0    | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4   |        |      |     |
| Q 19                   | 0    | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4   |        |      |     |
| Q 20                   | 0    | 1    | 2 | 3 | 4   |        | / 28 |     |

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