

Cost-effectiveness analysis of arthroscopic rotator cuff repair surgery in Hong Kong using utility scores



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Objective

- Examine the value of arthroscopic rotator cuff repair (ARCR) for full-thickness tears from a societal perspective
- Through cost effectiveness analysis using utility scores
- Relating surgical costs to increase in quality adjusted life-years (QALYs).



Introduction



- Economic evaluation of surgical procedures necessary
 - getting more expensive
 - newer techniques
 - increasingly cost-conscious health care environment
- Rotator cuff tears common orthopaedic disease
 - impact on loss of earnings, missed workdays largely unknown
 - medical costs poorly documented
- Examine value of ARCR from societal perspective in our centre







Aims of Study



- Estimate direct medical Cost & potential Cost savings from ARCR
- Evaluate Clinical effectiveness of ARCR by assessing functional outcome & complication rate
- Describe Cost effectiveness & Cost utility data for ARCR in Hong Kong







Western Ontario Rotator Cuff Index

Worc

- An economic model was constructed in Microsoft Excel®, with patients undergoing arthroscopic rotator cuff tear for full thickness tears in QEH
- Clinical effectiveness measured by functional scores (ASES & WORC), the latter consisting of 5 subscales: Symptoms, Sports, Work, Lifestyle, Emotion
- The 12-Item Short-Form Health Survey derived from (SF-36), which includes 2 aggregate measures, the physical and mental components, derived from 8 subscales, was used to gauge the impact on QOL.
- Utility was first measured by changes in SF-12 scores, which were converted into utility scores.



American Shoulder and Elbow Surgeons

Through educational programs and by encouraging research, the organization seeks to foster and advance the science and practice of shoulder and elbow care.

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10) Is it difficult for you to wash your back/do up bra?	11) Is it difficult for you manage toiletting?	
Unable to do	Unable to do	
Very difficult to do	Very difficult to do	
Somewhat difficult	Somewhat difficult	
Not difficult	Not difficult	
12) Is it difficult for you to comb your hair?	13) Is it difficult for you to reach a high shelf?	
Unable to do	Unable to do	
Very difficult to do	Very difficult to do	
Somewhat difficult	Somewhat difficult	
Not difficult	Not difficult	
14) Is it difficult for you to lift 10lbs. (4.5kg) above your shoulder?	15) Is it difficult for you to throw a ball overhand?	
Unable to do	Unable to do	
Very difficult to do	Very difficult to do	
O Somewhat difficult	Somewhat difficult	
Not difficult	Not difficult	
16) Is it difficult for you to do your usual work?	17) Is it difficult for you to do your usual sport/leisure activity?	
Unable to do	Unable to do	
Very difficult to do	Very difficult to do	
Somewhat difficult	Somewhat difficult	
Not difficult	Not difficult	
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THE WESTERN ONTARIO ROTATOR CUFF INDEX (WORC)

Section A: Physical Symptoms INSTRUCTIONS TO PATIENTS

The following questions concern the physical symptoms you have experienced due to your shoulder problem. In all cases, please enter the amount of the symptom you have experienced in the last week. (Please mark your answers with a slash "/")

 How much sharp pain do you experience in your shoulder?



2. How much constant, nagging pain do you experience in your aboulder?



How much weakness do you experience in your aboutder?



 How much stiffness do you experience in your shoulder?



5. How much clicking, grinding or crunching do you experience in your shoulder?



6.How much discomfort do you experience in your neck because of your shoulder?



SECTION B: Sports/Recreation INSTRUCTIONS TO PATIENTS

The following section concerns how your shoulder problem has affected your sports or recreational activities in the past week. For each question , please mark your answers with a siash "")





 On the actual form the lines are 100-mm long. This form is reproduced by permission of the Powler Kennedy Sport Medicine Clinic

SECTION C: Work INSTRUCTIONS TO PATIENTS

The following section concerns the amount that your shoulder problem has affected your work around or outside of the home. Please indicate the appropriate amount for the past week with a slash

11. How much difficulty do you experience in daily activities about the house or yard?

no	extrême
difficulty	difficulty

12. How much difficulty do you experience working above your head?

no	extrême
difficulty	difficulty

13. How much do you use your uninvolved arm to compensate for your injured one?



14. How much difficulty do you experience lifting heavy objects from the ground or below shoulder level?

	extreme
ilty	difficulty

no

diffici

SECTION D: Lifestyle INSTRUCTIONS TO PATIENTS

The following section concerns the amount that your shoulder problem has affected or changed your lifestyle. Again, please indicate the appropriate amount for the past week with a slash

15. How much difficulty do you have sleeping because of your shoulder?

no extreme difficulty difficulty



SECTION E: Emotions INSTRUCTIONS TO PATIENTS

The following questions relate to how you have felt in the past week with regard to your shoulder problem. Please indicate your answer with a slash "m.

19. How much frustration do you feel because of your shoulder ?



20. How "down in the dumps" or depressed do you feel because of your shoulder?



21. How worried or concerned are you about the effect of your shoulder on your occupation or work?





SF-12 生活質量評估系列量表

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$$ICER = \frac{(C_n - C_0)}{(QALY_n - QALY_0)}$$

Incremental Cost-Effectiveness Ratio (ICER)

- Direct cost estimates based on HA published data on charges for non-entitled persons and price quotation of the vendors for consumables.
- Cost for each procedure divided by weighted mean difference in functional outcome score to give cost-perpoint change in outcome score and the ICER.
- Indirect costs estimated using government data and patient-reported occupation
- QOL Results expressed in quality-adjusted life-years (QALYs) and Hong Kong Dollars, after converting SF-12 scores into utility score, and then the QALY gained at 2 yrs.
- Both costs & outcomes were discounted at 3.5 % per year.



- 43 patients who received ARCR for fullthickness tear at QEH between 2014 & 2015. (Min. FU = 24 months)
- M:F = 24:19
- Dominant arm in 55.8%
- Age : 37 To 73 (mean 55.1)
- Size of tear 0.8 to 5 cm (mean 1.9)
- Mean number of suture anchors: 1.35
- Time from onset of symptom to surgery : 4 to 25 Months (mean 9.2)

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Large (3-5cm)



Results : ASES & Overall WORC





Results : WORC Subscales





Results : SF-12

Physical component

Mental component







Results : Utility Scores & QALY

Utility Score from SF-12D







2Yr Lifetime



Adverse Events

• Complications : 18.6%

- Retears : 2 (SRR x LCT)
- Stiffness : 3
- Persistent Pain : 3
- Infection : 0
- Reoperations : 7%
 - -1 x Revision (DRR)
 - -2 x MUA + Release











Direct cost of hospitalisation for arthroscopic rotator cuff repair

• <u>Item</u>	Cost, HKD
•Surgeon's Fee	39960
 Anaesthetist's Fee 	19980
•Ward Round (3 days)	3600
 Physiotherapy (3 days) 	3600
•Room & Board	19950
 Facility Charges 	4840
•Subtotal	91930
•Consumables	8700
•Grand Total	100630



Hong Kong Government Data 2015

Societal Cost Savings

Median Monthly Wage Analysed by Occupational Group



Census and Statistics Department The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Elementary occupations (USW) 11100 12 (27.9%) 12400 3 (7.0%) Service and sales workers (SSW) Craft and related workers, plant 19000 10 (23.3%) and machine operators and assemblers (SCW) 6 (14.0%) Clerical support workers (CSW) 13500 Managers, administrators, 26000 10 (23.3%) professionals and associate professionals (MAP)

Mean of Monthly Wage

HKD16300

Annual Cost Saving from Sick Leave = HKD 195600





Cost Effectiveness

- Incremental cost-effectiveness ratio (ICER), cost-per-point change in outcome score :
 - ASES : 369827.3
 - WORC Overall : 227979.2
- Cost-per-QALY gained (ICUR) :
 - surgical treatment results in average improvement of 0.62 QALY at 2 yrs
 - estimated mean lifetime gain in QALYs from surgery 0.81
 - ratio of \$162306.5/QALY



Conclusion (Clinical Effectiveness)

- ARCR shown to be *highly effective* surgical procedures for treatment of symptomatic full thickness tears of rotator cuff
- Minimal Clinical Improvement Difference (MCID) of >30% firmly demonstrated by WORC; nearly achieved by ASES (27.2%)
- Detailed analysis using condition specific outcome assessment of WORC subscales, all 5 achieved MCID>0.3, more marked gain in *emotion, lifestyle* & symptoms

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Conclusion (Cost Effectiveness)

- Orthopaedic procedures best analyzed by use of QALYs because traditional outcome measures such as death or disease onset (eg, stroke and myocardial infarction) do not apply
- In the case of ARCR, QALYs are appropriate because repair results in significant, durable quality-of-life improvements. QALYs are calculated by multiplying the utility of the patient during a specific period by the length of time over which the improvement is experienced.

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Conclusion (Cost Effectiveness)

- Principal outcome calculated was incremental costeffectiveness ratio (ICER): ratio between the difference in costs and QALY of each treatment strategy
- US: ICER of <\$50,000 per QALY gained considered to be cost-effective (HK\$390K)
- UK: <£30,000 (HK\$360K)



 In this cost-effectiveness analysis, ARCR was shown to be an effective strategy with an ICER that was less than the willingness of both the US & UK health-care system to pay (HK\$162.3K)



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