Reference

Ludwigs E, Kannenberg A, Wüstefeld D.

Research Department, Otto Bock HealthCare GmbH, Göttingen, Germany.

Evaluation of the Benefits of a New Prosthetic Hip Joint System in Activities of Daily Function in Patients after Hip Disarticulation or Hemipelvectomy

Journal of Prosthetics and Orthotics 2013; 25(3):118-126.

Products

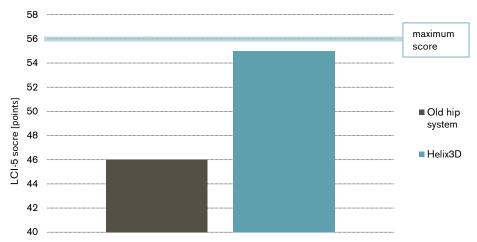
Helix^{3D} vs old hip system

Major Findings

With Helix^{3D} Hip Joint System compared to old hip system:

- → Increased mobility and independence by 20%
- → Increased walking velocity when descending stairs by 37% and when walking down ramps by 40%
- → Less need for walking aids and for help of caregivers

Improved mobility and independence with Helix^{3D}



Locomotor Capability Index 5 (LCI-5) score assesses the mobility and independence of lower-limb amputees based on 14 activities of daily living (ADLs). The maximum possible score is 56 points.

Population

Subjects: 11 disarticulation and 2 hemipelvectomy amputees

Previous prosthesis: 69% 7E7, 23% littig hip, 8% 4-bar-knee joint

mounted in revers

Amputation causes: not reported Mean age: 17 – 71 yrs Mean time since amputation: not reported

MFCL: 8% K1, 54% K2, 38% K3

Study Design

Observational, pre- to post-test design:



For most of the subjects not only the prosthetic hip joint was changed, but also the prosthetic knee joint; With the old hip joint, 23% of subjects were using C-Leg and 77% of subjects were using non-microprocessor controlled knees. With Helix^{3D}, all subjects were using C-Leg.

Results

Activities							Participation	Environment
Level walking	Stairs	Ramps, Hills	Uneven ground, Obstacles	Cognitive demand	Metabolic energy consump- tion	Activity, Mobility, ADLs	Preference, Satisfac- tion, QoL	Health economics

Category	Outcomes	Results for Helix ^{3D} compared to an old hip system Walking velocity tends to be increased from 0.76 to 0.83 m/s.		
Level Walking	10 m walk test (n=10)			
Stairs	Time to walk down eight steps (n=10)	Time required completing the task decreased by 37%.		
		All subjects walked down with the step-over- step strategy when using Helix ^{3D} . With the old hip system, only 2 subjects were able to do so.	n.a.	
Ramps, Hills	Time to walk up and down a ramp (11° grade)	Time required walking down a ramp decreased by 40%.		
	(n=10)	Time required walking up a ramp decreased by 13% .	+	
Activity, Mobility, Activities of daily living	LCI-5 (14 ADLs)	Score improved by 20% (from 46 to 55).		
(ADLs)		No changes in subscore 'basic ambulation skills'.	0	
		Improvements in subscore 'advanced ambulation skills'.	++	
	Questionnaire containing 6 activities that are de- manding for hip disar- ticulation and hemipel- vectomy amputees	Improvement in score.	++	
	Determination of mobility level	1 out of 1 MFCL K1 subject improved to MFCL K2. 4 out of 7 MFCL K2 subjects improved to MFCL K3.	n.a.	
	Functional assessment specific for the use of a	All of the assessed functions were rated as improved:		
	hip prosthesis	Comfort while standing	++	

Category	Outcomes	Results for Helix ^{3D} compared to an old hip system			
		Ease of initiation of swing phase			
		Walking velocity	++		
		Safety while standing Reaching the extension stop	++		
			++		
		Starting to walk from a standing position	++		
		The overall assessment is improved.	++		
	Independence and walk- ing aid	Subjects needed help from relatives or caregivers was reduced from 4 to 1 subject out of 13.	n.a.		
		7 subjects needed walking aid with the old hip system. 4 out of 7 subjects showed a reduction in the support of walking aids with Helix ^{3D} . At the one year follow-up, 3 out of 7 subjects showed even a further reduction in the support of walking aids.	n.a.		

^{*} no difference (0), positive trend (+), negative trend (-), significant (++/--), not applicable (n.a.)

Author's Conclusion

"In summary, the results of the LCI-5, the functional assessments, and walking velocity demonstrate significant improvements with the Helix^{3D} Hip Joint System as compared with conventional pelvic socket prostheses. This suggests that increased mobility and independence offered by this new prosthetic system with Helix^{3D} Hip Joint, C-Leg, instructions for the prosthetic alignment, and recommendations for the pelvic socket may improve the outcome of the amputee's rehabilitation." (Ludwigs et al. 2013)

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