

## Summary of research proposal LROI

### Title:

The impact of COVID-19 on arthroplasty surgery in the Netherlands



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### Abstract:

Hip, knee and shoulder arthroplasty surgery are frequent procedures, with approximately 70.000 procedures in the Netherlands annually. However as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak between March-April 2020 almost no elective surgeries have been performed, resulting in postponement of numerous arthroplasty procedures. Since mid-May these surgical procedures have been re-started in a stepwise way. According to the “urgentie lijst medische zorg” patients with an indication for a hip, knee or shoulder implant surgery because of osteoarthritis were classified in the least urgent surgical category. As a result the waiting time of these patients on the waiting list is likely to increase even further. Although these patients have no life threatening disease, waiting for arthroplasty surgery imposes a large impact on patient’s wellbeing, as well as on the society. The overall burden in terms of disability is substantial: all of these patients have severe pain and serious physical impairments leading to a reduced quality of life. Moreover, the impact of COVID-19 may be different for different patients categories. Frail patients may have to wait even longer as some hospitals re-start elective surgery on low risk patients first. Thus, to provide an overview of the impact of COVID-19 on arthroplasty surgery, we will investigate the number of postponed/refrained surgeries in 2020, the diagnosis for primary and revision surgery, and its impact at national and regional level.

*This study is funded by an LROI Research Grant*

**Approval date:** March 2021