The clinical profiles of people with knee osteoarthritis with or without a prior knee surgery. A registry-based study from the Swedish Osteoarthritis Register with 77 000 individuals.

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Aim:

To compare individual and clinical characteristics of individuals with knee OA, with or without prior knee surgery.

Methods:

A registry-based study including data from the Swedish Osteoarthritis Register. Individuals with a prior knee surgery were compared to individuals without a prior knee surgery with regards to individual characteristics (sex, age, BMI) and clinical characteristics (Charnley classification, intake of OA medication, fear of movement, walking difficulties, willingness of surgery, physical activity level, pain, and quality of life) using logistic regression.

Results:

Of 77 791 individuals with knee OA, 13 558 (21 %) reported a prior knee surgery.

Individuals with a prior knee surgery had lower odds of being a woman, were younger, had a lower BMI, and less fear of movement compared to those without prior surgery.

Those with a prior knee surgery had higher odds of being physically active, having walking difficulties, having a wish for surgery and higher health-related quality of life. There was no difference between individuals with and without a prior knee surgery for Charnley classification, pain intensity, pain frequency or intake of OA medication (Table 1).

Conclusion:

Individuals with knee OA, with and without a prior knee surgery differ in both individual and clinical characteristics. Individuals with knee OA and a prior knee surgery seem to enter first-line treatment at a younger age, with a lower BMI, with less fear of movement, a higher level of physical activity, higher health-related quality of life, but with more walking difficulties, and greater willingness of surgery.