



Management of Osteoarthritis

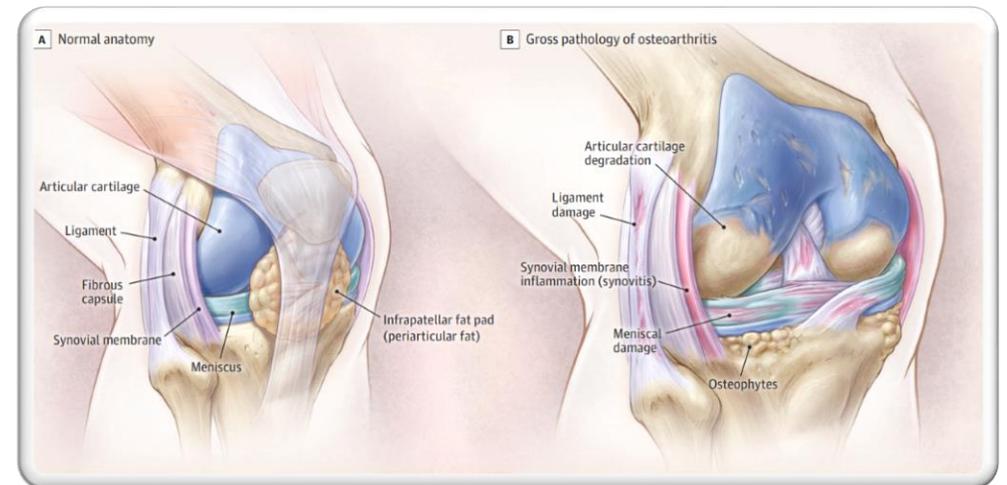
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Learning Outcomes

At the end of this session, the learner is expected to:

- Know the Non-pharmacologic and pharmacologic management of OA
- Provide best patient education & counselling
- Be aware of the role of nutritional supplements and alternative medicines in management of OA

INTRODUCTION

- ❑ Osteoarthritis (OA) is the **commonest form of arthritis** and possesses marked variability of disease expression. It affects an estimated more than 240 million persons worldwide and an estimated more than 32 million persons in the US.
- ❑ Although most patients present with **joint pain and functional limitations**, the **age of disease onset, sequence of joint involvement, and disease progression** vary from person to person.
- ❑ OA ranges from an **asymptomatic**, incidental finding on clinical or radiologic examination to a **progressive disabling disorder** eventually culminating in "joint failure."

CLINICAL MANIFESTATIONS

- ❑ The primary symptoms of osteoarthritis (OA) are **joint pain**, **stiffness**, and **locomotor restriction**.
- ❑ Symptoms usually present in just **one** or a **few joints** in a middle-aged or older person.
- ❑ Other manifestations in patients with OA include sequelae such as **muscle weakness**, **poor balance**, and comorbidities such as **fibromyalgia**

How Common Is OA?

- ❑ The risk of OA increases markedly with age. **One-third** of individuals older than 75 years have symptomatic knee OA.
- ❑ Osteoarthritis is **more common in women** than in men.
- ❑ Other important risk factors of OA include **obesity**, prior **joint injury**, **genetics**, and **malalignment of joints**.

STAGE OF KNEE OSTEOARTHRITIS

I Doubtful



Minimum disruption.
There is already
10% cartilage loss.

II Mild



Joint-space narrowing.
The cartilage to begin breaking down.
Occurrence of osteophytes.

III Moderate



Moderate joint-space reduction.
Gaps in the cartilage can
expand until they reach the bone.

IV Severe



Joint-space greatly reduced.
60% of the cartilage is already lost.
Large osteophytes.





Heberden's nodes



Deformity
Heberden's nodes



Erosive hand OA with
marked radial deviation



Thumb-base osteoarthritis



Unilateral knee OA



right hip OA, showing fixed flexion and external rotation deformity.

Principal manifestations of osteoarthritis

Patient characteristics	
Age of onset	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> >40 years*
Symptoms	
Pain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affects one or a few joints at a time Insidious onset - slow progression over years Variable intensity May be intermittent Increased by joint use and relieved by rest Night pain in severe osteoarthritis
Stiffness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short-lived (<30 minutes) and early morning- or inactivity-related
Swelling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some (eg, nodal osteoarthritis) patients present with swelling and/or deformity
Constitutional symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Absent
Physical exam findings	
Appearance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swelling (bony overgrowth ± fluid/synovial hypertrophy) Attitude Deformity Muscle wasting (global - all muscles acting over the joint)
Palpation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Absence of warmth Swelling (effusion if present is usually small and cool) Joint line tenderness Periarticular tenderness (especially knee, hip)
Range of motion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crepitus (knee, thumb bases) Reduced range of movement Weak local muscles

Cardinal symptom.

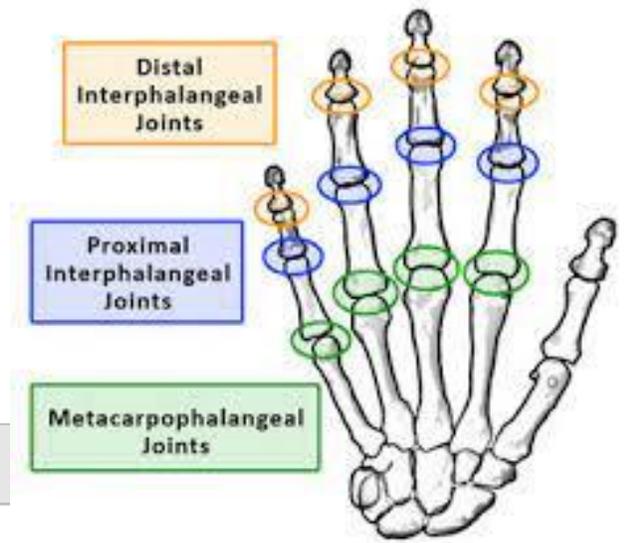
OA: osteoarthritis.

* Major joint injury and certain rare conditions may predispose to OA before the age of 40 years.

Adapted from: OARSI Primer (<http://primer.oarsi.org>).

UpToDate®

Clinical distinction between rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis



Feature	Rheumatoid arthritis	Osteoarthritis
Primary joints affected	Metacarpophalangeal	Distal interphalangeal
	Proximal interphalangeal	Carpometacarpal
Heberden's nodes	Absent	Frequently present
Joint characteristics	Soft, warm, and tender	Hard and bony
Stiffness	Worse after resting (eg, morning stiffness)	If present, worse after effort, may be described as evening stiffness
Laboratory findings	Positive rheumatoid factor	Rheumatoid factor-negative
	Positive anti-CCP antibody	Anti-CCP antibody-negative
	Elevated ESR and CRP	Normal ESR and CRP

CCP: cyclic citrullinated peptide; ESR: erythrocyte sedimentation rate; CRP: C-reactive protein.



Goal of treatment

- The goals of OA management are to
 - Minimize pain
 - Optimize function
 - And beneficially modify the process of joint damage





Approach

- ❑ Due to the **modest effects** of the individual treatment options, a **combination** of therapeutic approaches is commonly used in practice and should prioritize therapies that are **safer**.





Non-pharmacologic therapy

- ❑ Non-pharmacologic interventions are the **mainstay** of OA management and should be **tried first**, followed by or in concert with medications to relieve pain when necessary.



Non-pharmacologic therapies include

- Weight** management
- Exercises**
- Braces** and foot **orthoses** for patients suitable to these interventions

And use of **assistive devices** when required



Non-pharmacologic therapy for the management of OA

Weight loss

- ❑ Loss of at least 10 percent of body weight through a combination of diet and exercises has been associated with a 50 percent reduction in pain scores in overweight/obese patients with knee OA after 18 months.





OPEN ACCESS

CLINICAL SCIENCE

Glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists as a disease-modifying therapy for knee osteoarthritis mediated by weight loss: findings from the Shanghai Osteoarthritis Cohort

Hongyi Zhu ,^{1,2} Lenian Zhou,^{1,2} Qiuke Wang ,³ Qianying Cai,^{1,2} Fan Yang,¹ Hanqiang Jin,¹ Yiwei Chen,¹ Yanyan Song,⁴ Changqing Zhang ,^{1,2}

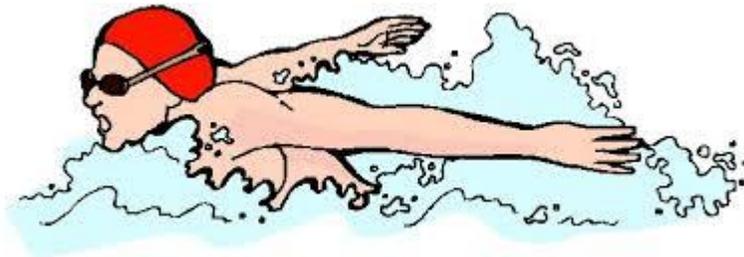
- Multicentre study of >40 000 adults with clinically diagnosed osteoarthritis aged >45
- 2011-2017
- GLP-1RAs might be potentially disease modifying OA drugs for KOA, although the benefits might require a long treatment duration.

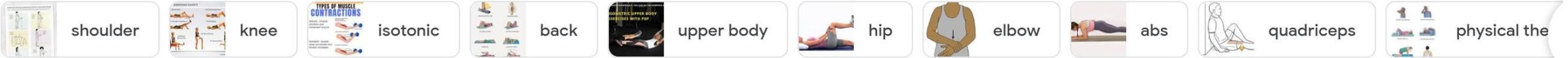


Non-pharmacologic therapy for the management of OA

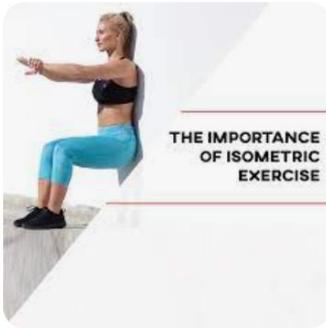
- ❑ Exercises have effects of **similar magnitude** on pain and function compared with **NSAIDs**.

A combination of **aerobic, strengthening, isometric and** aquatic exercises.

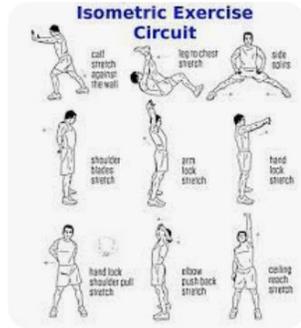




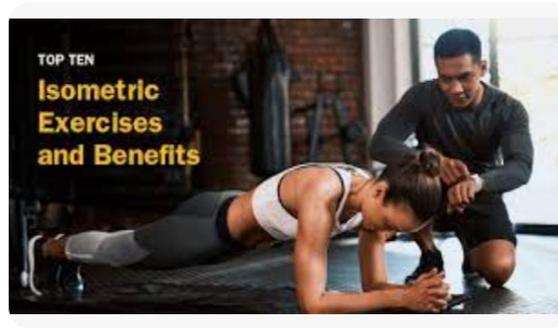
Vertimax Top 20 Isometric Ex...



The Prehab Guys The Importance of Isome...



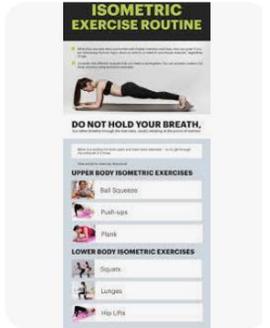
Facebook Isometric exercise ...



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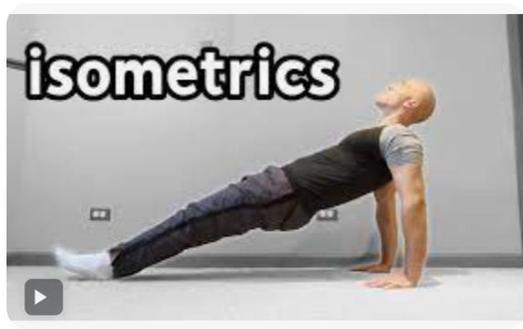
Shape How Isometric Exercises Can Help You...



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Medical News Today Isometric exercises: Definition ...



Runner's World Isometric Exercises | How Isometric ...



Non-pharmacologic therapy for the management of OA

Equipment

Braces, foot orthoses, and assistive devices when required



Summary of Osteoarthritis Treatment Guidelines From Major Professional Societies

Recommendations	ACR		EULAR		AAOS		OARSI	
	Knee	Hip	Knee	Hip	Knee	Hip	Knee	Hip
Nonpharmacologic treatments								
Weight loss (overweight or obese individuals)	●	●	●	●	●		●	●
Self-management/education programs (eg, goal setting, skill building, education about exercise and medication)	●	●	●	●	●		●	●
Physical exercise (eg, combination of aerobic exercise, strengthening, neuromuscular training, isometric exercises)	●	●	●	●	●		●	●
Balance training	●	●					●	●
Yoga	●						●	●
Tai chi	●	●					●	●
Cognitive behavior therapy	●	●						●
Acupuncture	●	●			●		●	●
Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation	●	●			○			

- Strongly recommended
- Conditionally recommended
- Conditionally recommended against
- Strongly recommended against
- Inconclusive



Reviewed - USA Today
What is balance training and h...



Verywell Fit
5 Balance Exercises to Boost Stability ...



Fabrication Enterprises Inc
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Pharmacologic therapy



- ❑ Pharmacologic agents are used for patients with **symptomatic OA** who have **not responded adequately** to initial non-pharmacologic measures **or concomitantly** with these interventions.
- ❑ Pharmacologic therapy should only be used during periods when **symptoms are present**, since none of the interventions have been shown to be **disease-modifying**.





Pharmacologic therapy

The main medications used in the pharmacologic management of OA include:

- Oral and topical NSAIDs
- Topical capsaicin
- Duloxetine
- And intraarticular glucocorticoids & hyaluronate



General approach to pharmacotherapy

- ❑ In patients with one or a few joints affected, especially knee and/or hand OA, pharmacotherapy initiate with **topical NSAIDs** due to their **similar efficacy** compared with oral NSAIDs and their better safety profile.



General approach to pharmacotherapy

Topical NSAIDs

- ❑ The risk of **gastrointestinal, renal, and cardiovascular toxicity** is much lower with topical NSAIDs as compared with its oral formulation due to the reduced systemic absorption (**5- to 17-fold** lower)
- ❑ The **tolerability profile** is **also better** with topical NSAIDs, with mild skin rashes being the most commonly reported side effect.

Administration

Topical Diclofenac

Lower extremity (eg, knee):

Gel 1% (OTC or Rx): **Apply 4 g** to each affected **area up to 4 times** daily; maximum dose per joint: **16 g/day**; maximum total body dose (all combined joints): **32 g/day**.

Upper extremity (eg, hand):

Gel 1% (OTC or Rx): **Apply 2 g** to each affected area **up to 4 times daily**; maximum dose per joint: **8 g/day**; maximum total body dose (all combined joints): **32 g/day**.

Administration

- ❑ Apply to clean, dry, intact skin; do not apply to open wounds, eyes, or mucous membranes.
- ❑ Do not cover with occlusive dressings or apply heat, sunscreens, cosmetics, lotions, moisturizers, insect repellents, or other topical medications to affected area.
- ❑ Showering/bathing should be avoided for ≥ 1 hour following application. Wash hands immediately after application (unless hands are treated joint, then wait ≥ 1 hour to wash hands).
- ❑ Avoid sunlight to exposure areas.
- ❑ Avoid wearing clothes or gloves for ≥ 10 minutes after application.



General approach to pharmacotherapy

Capsaicin

- ❑ Topical capsaicin is a treatment option when **one or a few joints are involved** and other interventions **are ineffective** or **contraindicated**; however, its use may be limited by common local side effects.





General approach to pharmacotherapy

Oral NSAIDs are used in patients with:

- Inadequate symptom relief from topical NSAIDs
- Symptomatic OA in multiple joints
- And/or patients with **hip OA.**



Oral NSAIDs

- ❑ The use of NSAIDs in most patients is limited by the increased risk of **serious gastrointestinal, cardiovascular, and renal complications.**
- ❑ The **lowest effective dose** should be used to control the patient's symptoms on an **as-needed basis.**

Recommended doses

Diclofenac acid **35 mg** is approximately equivalent to **38.5 mg** of diclofenac salts

Drug	Usual analgesic dose (oral)	Maximum dose per day	Selected characteristics
Diclofenac	50 mg every 8 to 12 hours	150 mg for RA, labeling in United States permits up to 200 mg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dosing for free-acid preparation differs from doses listed here for sodium or potassium salts;
Indomethacin	25 to 50 mg every 8 to 12 hours	150 mg For rheumatologic conditions, labeling in United States permits up to 200 mg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More frequently associated with CNS side effects (eg, headache, altered mental status) compared with other NSAIDs
Meloxicam	7.5 to 15 mg once daily	15 mg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long duration of effect; relatively slow onset • Relative COX-2 selectivity and minimal effect on platelet function at lower daily dose of 7.5 mg
Piroxicam	10 to 20 mg once daily	20 mg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-acting alternative for treatment of chronic pain and inflammation poorly responsive to other NSAIDs • Prescribing generally limited to specialists with experience in treatment of chronic pain and inflammation

Recommended doses

Drug	Usual analgesic dose (oral)	Maximum dose per day	Selected characteristics
Ibuprofen	400 mg every 4 to 6 hours or 600 to 800 mg every 6 to 8 hours	3200 mg (acute), 2400 mg (chronic)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Shorter-acting alternative to naproxen; useful in patients without cardiovascular risks
Naproxen	Base: 250 to 500 mg every 12 hours or 250 mg every 6 to 8 hours	Base: 1250 mg (acute); 1000 mg (chronic); may increase to 1500 mg during a disease flare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Often preferred for treatment of acute or chronic pain and inflammation in patients without relevant comorbidities or risks •Higher dose (eg, 500 mg base twice daily) may have less cardiovascular toxicity than comparable doses of other NSAIDs; •Naproxen sodium has a faster onset than naproxen base
Celecoxib	200 mg daily or 100 mg every 12 hours	400 mg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Less risk of GI toxicity relative to nonselective NSAIDs; benefit negated by low-dose aspirin, which may require concurrent gastroprotection •No effect on platelet function •Cardiovascular and kidney risks are dose-related and may be similar to nonselective NSAIDs •May be tolerated by patients with AERD or pseudoallergic reactions (eg, asthma, rhinosinusitis) who cannot take other NSAIDs



Gastritis and Gastroduodenal Ulcer Associated with NSAIDs

- ❑ For traditional NSAIDs, **low and medium doses** were associated with a lower risk than higher doses.
- ❑ These adverse effects are **less common with selective COX-2 inhibitors**.
- ❑ Several NSAIDs had a far higher than average risk, including **ketorolac** and **piroxicam**.
- ❑ Drugs with a **long half-life** or **slow-release formulation** were associated with higher risk, even accounting for dose.



Cardiovascular Effects of NSAIDs

- ❑ The largest meta-analysis of observational studies available to date also clearly demonstrates that **higher doses of NSAIDs**, with the exception of naproxen, **increased the risk of serious cardiovascular events**.
- ❑ The effect of **dose and slow-release formulation** demonstrated that risk was a direct consequence of prolonged drug exposure.
- ❑ These adverse effects are more common with selective COX-2 inhibitors.



General approach to pharmacotherapy

Duloxetine

- ❑ Duloxetine is used for patients with OA in **multiple joints** and **concomitant comorbidities** that may contraindicate oral NSAIDs and for patients who have not **responded** satisfactorily to other interventions.
- ❑ 30 mg once daily, max dose 60 mg



General approach to pharmacotherapy

Acetaminophen

- ❑ Due to **safety concerns** pertaining to the use of acetaminophen (paracetamol) and **increased awareness** of its **negligible** and non-clinically **significant effects** on pain, this medication is no longer considered the first-line analgesic for the treatment of knee and hip OA by clinical guidelines.



General approach to pharmacotherapy

Acetaminophen

- Although its **occasional use** for treatment of **mild OA** with occasional pain is recommended, its **lack of substantial efficacy** suggests that it should not be a primary treatment for **moderate to severe OA**.



General approach to pharmacotherapy

Intraarticular glucocorticoid

- ❑ Intraarticular glucocorticoid injections **do not routinely used** due to the **short duration of its effects.**





Intraarticular glucocorticoid

Choice of glucocorticoid preparation

- ❑ **Depot formulations** are designed to stay at the injection site and display **mostly local effects**, although systemic effects can occur.

- ❑ **The most commonly used depot glucocorticoids**
 - **Methylprednisolone acetate**
 - **Triamcinolone acetate**
 - **And triamcinolone acetonide**



Intraarticular glucocorticoid

Variation of dose by anatomic location

- ❑ Glucocorticoid doses should vary with the **structure injected**.
- ❑ The UpToDate authors use triamcinolone acetonide
 - At standard doses of **40 mg** for a large joint (knee, shoulder),
 - **30 mg** for medium-sized joints (wrist, ankle, elbow)
 - And **10 mg** for small spaces



Intraarticular glucocorticoid

Frequency of injection

- ❑ Intra-articular steroids are expected to result in clinical improvement of arthritis for **short duration**.
- ❑ Therefore, if arthritis recurs, joint injections can be repeated as many as **three times** in a **12-month period**.



General approach to pharmacotherapy

Hyaluronate

- ❑ The use of any intraarticular hyaluronic acid (HA) formulation is not recommended due to the **lack of robust evidence** demonstrating benefit.
- ❑ Moreover, intraarticular HA is associated with **high costs** and potential side effects such as **pain flare-ups** and **joint infection**, although the latter is a rare complication.



Platelet-Rich Plasma

Research

JAMA | **Original Investigation**

Effect of Intra-articular Platelet-Rich Plasma vs Placebo Injection on Pain and Medial Tibial Cartilage Volume in Patients With Knee Osteoarthritis
The RESTORE Randomized Clinical Trial

Conclusions and Relevance Among patients with symptomatic mild to moderate radiographic knee OA, intra-articular injection of PRP, compared with injection of saline placebo, did not result in a significant difference in symptoms or joint structure at 12 months. **These findings do not support use of PRP for the management of knee OA.**

Platelet-Rich Plasma

 *Therapeutic Advances in Chronic Disease*

Review

Platelet-rich plasma in osteoarthritis treatment: review of current evidence

Lucía Gato-Calvo, Joana Magalhaes, Cristina Ruiz-Romero, Francisco J. Blanco and Elena F. Burguera 

Ther Adv Chronic Dis

2019, Vol. 10: 1–18

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2040622319825567

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At present, results from randomized clinical trials seem to favor PRP used over other IA treatments such as HA injections, to improve pain scales in the short and medium term (6–12months).

Concluding, at present the therapeutic potential of PRP products in OA remains unfulfilled and **without further standardization its clinical efficacy will remain an open debate.**

Additionally, RCTs in which OA patients were stratified suggest that PRP is more effective in those with **lower degree of cartilage degeneration or OA grade.** Therefore, careful patient stratification should be considered.

Platelet-Rich Plasma

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scientific reports

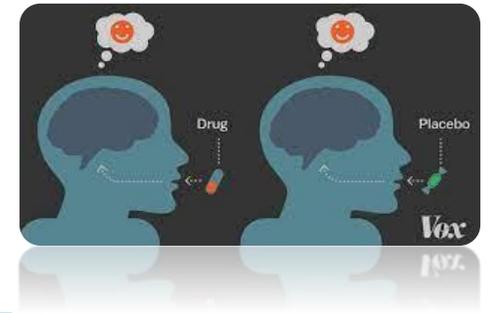
 Check for updates

OPEN Platelet-rich plasma (PRP)
in osteoarthritis (OA) knee: Correct
dose critical for long term clinical
efficacy

Despite encouraging results reported with regards to Platelet-rich plasma (PRP) application in osteoarthritis (OA) knee, still critical issues like conclusive structural evidence of its efficacy, **standard dose** and **good manual method of preparation** to obtain high yield remains unanswered.

Study demonstrated that an absolute count of **10 billion platelets** is crucial in a PRP formulation to have long sustained chondroprotective effect upto one year in moderate knee OA.

Role of placebo effect



- ❑ According to a meta-analysis of trials including a placebo group, the overall effect size estimate of placebo for **pain** (defined as change from baseline to endpoint) was **0.51** (95% CI 0.46 to 0.55) for all trials, though there was significant **variation among distinct types of placebo**.
- ❑ In addition to alleviating pain, improvements in other common clinical OA outcomes have also been observed with placebo such as **stiffness and joint function**.



Role of placebo effect

□ A number of determinants are able to evoke a placebo response. Among them, there are factors related to the intervention such as:

- The route of delivery
- Frequency of administration
- Color and cost
- How new the intervention is
- And others related to the health professional-patient relationship (context effect).





Nutritional supplements in management of OA

- ❑ Glucosamine and chondroitin
- ❑ Avocado soybean
- ❑ Fish oil
- ❑ Curcumin





Nutritional supplements in management of OA

- ❑ These nutritional supplements are not routinely recommend due to lack of **clear evidence** demonstrating a **clinically important benefit** from these supplements.
- ❑ However, may have **small effects** on symptoms, and patients with **mild disease** who may benefit more from these therapies.



Nutritional supplements in management of OA

- ❑ Some meta-analyses also suggested that glucosamine sulfate (**1500 mg/day**) and chondroitin (**800 mg/day**) may have small effects in **delaying structural progression of OA** with long-term use (two to three years).



Be careful about serving size



Glucosamine Sulphate vs hydrochloride

Sulphate

- Needs to be stabilised with **NaCL(salt) or KCL**
- Can contain up to 30% salt if stabilised with NaCL
- Typically contains around 75% glucosamine
- Glucosamine 2KCL does not contain salt
- Sourced from shellfish

Hydrochloride

- A more **concentrated**
- Typically contains around 83% glucosamine
- Far **lower in salt**
- More naturally stable
- Doesn't require added salt
- Doesn't require preservatives
- Sourced from **vegetables**





Glucosamine & diabetes

- Glucosamine is likely safe in patients with well-controlled diabetes (**HbA1c less than 6.5%**) taking one or two oral antidiabetic medications or controlled by diet only.
- In patients with higher HbA1c levels or those taking insulin, **monitor blood glucose levels closely/more frequently.**



Nutritional supplements in management of OA

- With **role of placebo effect** in mind and in line with the prerequisite of "**do no harm,**" it is likely that patients with OA pain would benefit from clinicians who are able to optimize and use the placebo effect in clinical practice in the favor of their patients.
- Finally :we do not recommend **these supplements routinely** to all patients; however, we do not discourage their use for patients who **are keen to** take them, especially if **symptomatic benefit is achieved** with their use.

How Effective Is Total Joint Replacement?

What Are the Risks?

How Long Does the Implant Last?

- About 90% of recipients of total hip replacement and about 80% of recipients of total knee replacement report substantial improvement in pain.
- **Mortality** following these procedures is **less than 1%**, and serious problems such as pulmonary embolus, myocardial infarction, pneumonia, and infection of the implant occur in less than 5%.
- The implants are durable, with about 90% of knee implants and 80% of hip implants **lasting 20 years**.

Summary of Osteoarthritis Treatment Guidelines From Major Professional Societies

Recommendations	ACR		EULAR		AAOS		OARSI	
	Knee	Hip	Knee	Hip	Knee	Hip	Knee	Hip
Pharmacologic treatments								
Oral NSAIDs	●	●		●	●	●	●	●
Topical NSAIDs	●				●	●	●	
Acetaminophen (short-term relief only)	●	●			○		●	●
Tramadol	●	●			●			
Nontramadol opioids	●	●					●	●
Duloxetine	●	●					●	●
Glucosamine or chondroitin	●	●			●	●	●	
Hyaluronic acid injection	●	●			●	●	●	●
Glucocorticoid steroid injection	●	●			○	●	●	●
Growth factor injections and/or platelet-rich plasma	●	●			○			

● Strongly recommended
● Conditionally recommended against
○ Inconclusive
● Conditionally recommended
● Strongly recommended against

PRP >>> IA hyaluronate



AAOS: American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, **ACR:** American College of Rheumatology, **EULAR:** European League Against Rheumatism, **OARSI:** Osteoarthritis Research Society International.



Take home message

- ❑ Non- pharmacologic interventions are **mainstay** of osteoarthritis management.
- ❑ **10 percent** weight reduction **→** **50% pain reduction.**
- ❑ None of medicines are disease modifying and their use is limited to **symptomatic conditions.**
- ❑ **Topical NSAIDs** demonstrate similar efficacy with lower toxicity compare to Oral NSAIDs.



Take home message

- ❑ Acetaminophen is not **recommended anymore**.
- ❑ NSAIDs with a **long half-life** or slow-release formulation were associated with higher risk, even accounting for dose.
- ❑ The use of any intraarticular hyaluronic acid (HA) formulation is not recommended due to the **lack of robust evidence** demonstrating benefit.
- ❑ Use of supplements is not **routinely recommended** for all patients.

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JAMA | Review

Diagnosis and Treatment of Hip and Knee Osteoarthritis A Review

Jeffrey N. Katz, MD, MSc; Kaetlyn R. Arant, BA; Richard F. Loeser, MD

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Katz JN, Arant KR, Loeser RF. Diagnosis and Treatment of Hip and Knee Osteoarthritis: A Review. JAMA. 2021;325(6):568–578. doi:10.1001/jama.2020.22171