

PEER REVIEW HISTORY

BMJ Open publishes all reviews undertaken for accepted manuscripts. Reviewers are asked to complete a checklist review form (<http://bmjopen.bmj.com/site/about/resources/checklist.pdf>) and are provided with free text boxes to elaborate on their assessment. These free text comments are reproduced below.

ARTICLE DETAILS

TITLE (PROVISIONAL)	Post-Surgery Paths and Outcomes for Hip Fracture Patients (POST-OP HIP PATHS) – A population-based retrospective cohort study protocol
AUTHORS	Backman, Chantal; Shah, Soha; Webber, Colleen; Turcotte, Luke; Mclsaac, DI; Papp, Steve; Harley, Anne; Beaulé, Paul; French-Merkley, Véronique; Berdusco, Randa; Poitras, Stephane; Tanuseputro, Peter

VERSION 1 – REVIEW

REVIEWER	Brox, William University of California San Francisco, UCSF Fresno
REVIEW RETURNED	30-Aug-2022

GENERAL COMMENTS	I look forward to reviewing the evidence and recommendations generated by this protocol.
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REVIEWER	Merchán-Galvis, A. IIB Sant Pau
REVIEW RETURNED	27-Oct-2022

GENERAL COMMENTS	It is not clear how the authors will respond to the specific objective 3. A description of the short and long-term outcomes will be made (including the use of health services and costs), but it is not described what they consider a variation in care, nor is it specified how they will measure changes in care or how to analyze whether there is an association with other patient characteristics.
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VERSION 1 – AUTHOR RESPONSE

Reviewer: 1

I look forward to reviewing the evidence and recommendations generated by this protocol.

Response: Thank you very much for taking the time to review our manuscript and for your kind comment.

Reviewer: 2

It is not clear how the authors will respond to the specific objective 3. A description of the short and long-term outcomes will be made (including the use of health services and costs), but it is not described what they consider a variation in care, nor is it specified how they will measure changes in care or how to analyze whether there is an association with other patient characteristics.

Response: Thank you for your comment. For objective 3, we will look specifically at whether rehab setting, time to initiation of rehab, and length of rehab, are associated with short- and long-term outcomes. We have clarified our 3rd objective as follows:

To evaluate how post-acute rehabilitation care settings, time to initiation of rehabilitation as well as length of rehabilitation services are associated with place of care/residence at 6- and 12-months post-

surgery as well as other short-term and long-term outcomes.

The focus of this objective is not to identify relationships with other patient characteristics. In objectives 1 and 2, we will look at relationships between patient characteristics and acute care and rehab characteristics. In objective 3, the main role of any patient characteristics will be as confounding variables for control in regression.

Editor

*Please revise the 'Strengths and limitations of this study' section of your manuscript (after the abstract). This section should contain up to five short bullet points, no longer than one sentence each, that relate specifically to the methods. The novelty, aims, anticipated results or expected impact of the study should not be summarised here.

Response: We have revised our short bullet points to relate specifically to the methods.

*Please ensure that the main text contains an ethics and dissemination section as per our instructions for authors: <https://bmjopen.bmj.com/pages/authors/#protocol>

Response: Thank you for your comment. We have revised and added further details to the ethics and dissemination section.

Please feel free to contact me if you require any additional information.