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DEVELOPMENT OF A CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK OF RECOVERY AFTER ABDOMINAL SURGERY: PRELIMINARY RESULTS

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Number of Reviewers: **4**

Total Score: **21**

Mean Score: **5.25**

Score	Reviewer	Reject Comment	Overall Comment
3	Dana Telem		Super interesting concept, way too early for submission. Interesting poster. Look forward to the results of the qualitative interview and the resultant conceptual framework.
6	Danielle Walsh		PROM's are considered the future of outcomes data. good to introduce at sages
5	Jennifer Choi		
7	Prashant Sinha		This could be a plenary or excellent podium presentation given its quality. I am not sure how plenary sessions are chosen however this is a very high quality study that creates an excellent framework to study patient reported outcomes.

INTRODUCTION: Patient-reported outcome measures (PROMs) are central to determining the value of interventions that aim to improve surgical recovery. However, the evidence underpinning the PROMs currently in use to assess recovery after abdominal surgery is relatively weak, and the scientific contribution to the measurement properties is limited. To bridge this knowledge gap, we recently initiated a research program to develop a conceptually relevant and psychometrically sound recovery-specific PROM. In compliance with FDA recommendations for PROM development, the first stage of this program aims to develop a conceptual framework representing the health domains relevant to the process of recovery after abdominal surgery.

METHODS AND PROCEDURES: A systematic review was undertaken to identify PROMs currently used in the context of recovery after abdominal surgery. All items contained in the PROMs were categorized into health domains covered by the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF). To acquire expert input, 35 perioperative care experts from SAGES and ERAS Society were invited to participate in a 2-round Delphi study in which they rated their agreement with each domain. Domains deemed as relevant (>75% agreement) were organized into a diagram comprising a hypothesized conceptual framework of recovery after abdominal surgery. Qualitative interviews with abdominal surgery patients, guided by the hypothesized conceptual framework, were planned (and are in progress) at 5 international sites (Canada, USA, Japan, Italy and Brazil) to derive the final conceptual framework. These interviews focus on patients' lived experiences after abdominal surgery, are analyzed according to a modified grounded theory approach, and will continue until thematic saturation is reached.

RESULTS: The systematic review identified 19 PROMs covering 66 ICF domains. 23 experts (66%) participated in the Delphi process. After Round 2, experts agreed that 22 health domains are potentially relevant to the process of recovery after abdominal surgery (Figure; blue). Thus far, the analysis of 4 Canadian interviews has validated these 22 initially hypothesized domains and has added 5 domains into the conceptual framework (Figure; beige).

Sensations associated with hearing & vestibular functions

Respiration functions

Emotional functions

Repair functions of the skin

Energy and drive function

Sleep function

Sensation of pain

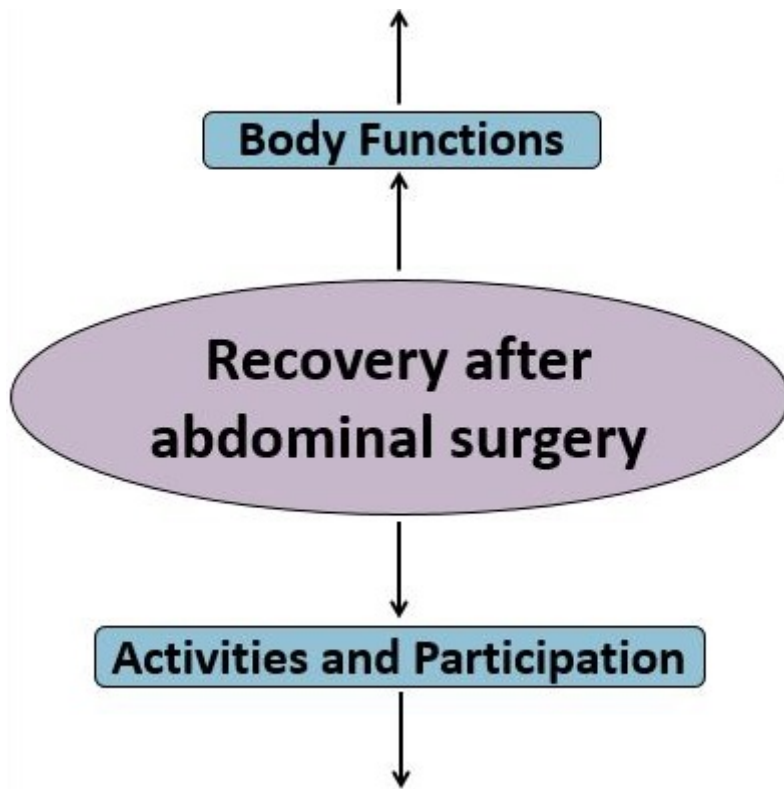
Exercise tolerance functions

Ingestion functions

Defection functions

Sensations – digestive system

Muscle power functions



Carrying out daily routine
Handling stress/psychological demand
Changing body position
Maintaining body position
Lifting and carrying objects
Moving around
Walking
Washing oneself
Dressing
Doing housework
Intimate relationships
Driving
Remunerative employment
Recreation and leisure
Undertaking tasks independently

CONCLUSION: This conceptual framework is an essential first step in our research program leading to a novel recovery-specific PROM to be used in research informing patient-centered decision-making as well as quality improvement initiatives in the field of abdominal surgery.