

## **Surgeon Perceived Requirements for a Platform to Integrate Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) into Clinical Practice**

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### Background:

The essential features of a platform to integrate patient reported outcome measures (PROMs) into clinical practice, as perceived by surgeons, has not previously been studied. Patient reported outcome measures (PROMs) are standardized, validated tools that translate subjective patient-reported concerns about their health status into objective data. PROMs were initially developed as research instruments, however, they have more recently been recognized as important clinical tools(1-2). Despite this, PROMs have not been widely adopted into surgical practices(3). This study sought to uncover the system requirements of a platform to integrate PROMs into surgical practice, as perceived by surgeons.

### Methods:

We conducted semi-structured interviews with nine surgeons representing eight different surgical subspecialties. Interviews were continued until thematic saturation. Qualitative analysis was performed using an inductive approach to assess surgeon perceptions of essential features of a platform for integration of PROMs into clinical surgical practice.

### Results:

Analysis revealed 12 system features desired by surgeons for a platform to integrate PROMs into clinical use. These were further grouped into 4 unique overarching themes. Surgeons asserted that the platform must 1) be user-centric, 2) promote information transparency, 3) incorporate validated questionnaires while still allowing for some degree of customizability, and 4) support the collection and display of longitudinal data.

### Conclusions:

To integrate PROMs into routine clinical surgical practice will require user-centric design of the informatics platform employed to collect, display, and interpret the results for patients and surgeons.