

Additional file 4: Category scheme

Categories: Patients

Table 1: Patient categories

Category	Definition
Information provision	
Information provided at diagnosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains statements about information that patients received at the time of diagnosis of gonarthrosis regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the aetiology, course and treatment of the condition ○ format of the information ○ procedure for providing the information ○ importance of the information ○ source of information (general practitioner / specialist)
Information provided on treatment options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains statements about information that patients received during the treatment of gonarthrosis regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ treatment options ○ format of the information ○ the process of providing information ○ importance of the information ○ source of information (general practitioner / specialist)
Information provided regarding TKA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains statements about information that patients received regarding knee replacement prior to informed consent: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ format of the information ○ procedure for providing the information ○ content regarding surgery ○ content regarding anaesthesia ○ importance of the information ○ source of information (general practitioner / specialist)
Information provided in die informed consent process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains statements about information that patients received during the informed consent process regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ format of the information ○ procedure for providing the information ○ content regarding the operation ○ content regarding anaesthesia ○ importance of the information ○ differences in the information provided

Table 1: continued

Category	Definition
Information needs	
Information needs at diagnosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains statements about information that patients would like to receive or expect regarding the aetiology, course and treatment of gonarthrosis: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ questions for the treating doctor ○ missing information ○ importance of the desired information
Information needs regarding treatment options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains statements about information that patients would like or expect to receive regarding various treatment options (excluding TKA): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ questions for the treating doctor ○ missing information ○ importance of the desired information
Information needs regarding TKA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains statements about information that patients would like to receive or expect to receive regarding TKA prior to the informed consent process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ questions for the treating doctor ○ missing information ○ importance of the desired information
Information needs in the informed consent process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains statements about information that the patients would like to receive or expect to receive during the informed consent process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ questions for the treating doctor ○ missing information ○ importance of the desired information
Information acquisition	
Information acquisition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains statements regarding patients' search for information on the aetiology, course and treatment (including TKA) of gonarthrosis: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ sources of information, e.g. internet, friends, relatives, professionals ○ importance of the sources of information ○ evaluation of the information found / received ○ differences to the information provided by the doctors who treated the patient

Table 1: continued

Category	Definition
Treatment course from diagnosis to TKA	
Treatment course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains statements describing the course of treatment from diagnosis to decision regarding knee replacement, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ treatments carried out / refused ○ course of treatment over time ○ doctor's visits due to the gonarthrosis
Decision-making process	
Decisions for / against treatment options (excluding TKA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains statements about the process of deciding for or against treatment options (excluding TKA) with regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ factors influencing the decision ○ persons involved in the decision ○ involvement in the decision (Shared Decision-Making) ○ course of the doctor-patient discussion ○ expectations towards treating doctors ○ value of the decision ○ satisfaction with the decision-making process ○ retrospective satisfaction with the decision
Decision for / against TKA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains statements about the process of deciding for or against TKA regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ factors influencing the decision ○ persons involved in the decision ○ involvement in the decision (Shared Decision-Making) ○ course of the doctor-patient discussion ○ expectations towards treating doctors ○ value of the decision ○ satisfaction with the decision-making process
Role of the informed consent process and the informed consent form in the decision-making process	
Procedure of the informed consent process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains statements on the course of the informed consent process with regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ time of the informed consent process ○ time at which the informed consent form was received ○ implementation ○ expectations / personal needs
Decision-making processes within the informed consent process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains statements regarding decisions made during the informed consent process with regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ anaesthetic procedures ○ alternative surgical options ○ influence of the informed consent process / form

Categories: Outpatient doctors / clinician

Table 2: Outpatient doctors / clinicians' categories

Category	Definition
Providing information from a doctor's perspective	
Provision of information by outpatient doctors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains statements by doctors regarding their own provision of information to patients with regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ content ○ format of the information ○ scope of the information ○ the process of providing information ○ dealing with patients who have already been informed ○ assessment of own abilities
Provision of information in the consultation and informed consent process from a clinical perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains statements of clinicians regarding their own information transfer to patients in the consultation and informed consent process (anaesthesia/TKA) with regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ content ○ format of the information ○ scope of the information ○ procedure of information transfer ○ dealing with already informed patients ○ assessment of own abilities ○ inhibiting/encouraging characteristics of the informed consent process / the informed consent form used
Decision-making processes from the doctor's perspective	
Treatment options: Decision-making and inclusion of the patient perspective from the perspective of outpatient doctors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains statements from doctors regarding the decision-making process of patients in terms of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ involvement in decision making ○ inhibiting and facilitating factors for involvement in decision-making ○ assessment of own abilities
TKA: Decision-making and inclusion of the patient perspective in the informed consent process from the clinician's perspective.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains statements from clinicians regarding the patient's decision-making process in terms of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ decision-making options ○ involvement in decision-making ○ inhibiting and facilitating factors for inclusion in decision-making ○ assessment of own abilities • Importance of the informed consent process for the decision-making process