

Appendix 4; Details of pain and disability outcomes

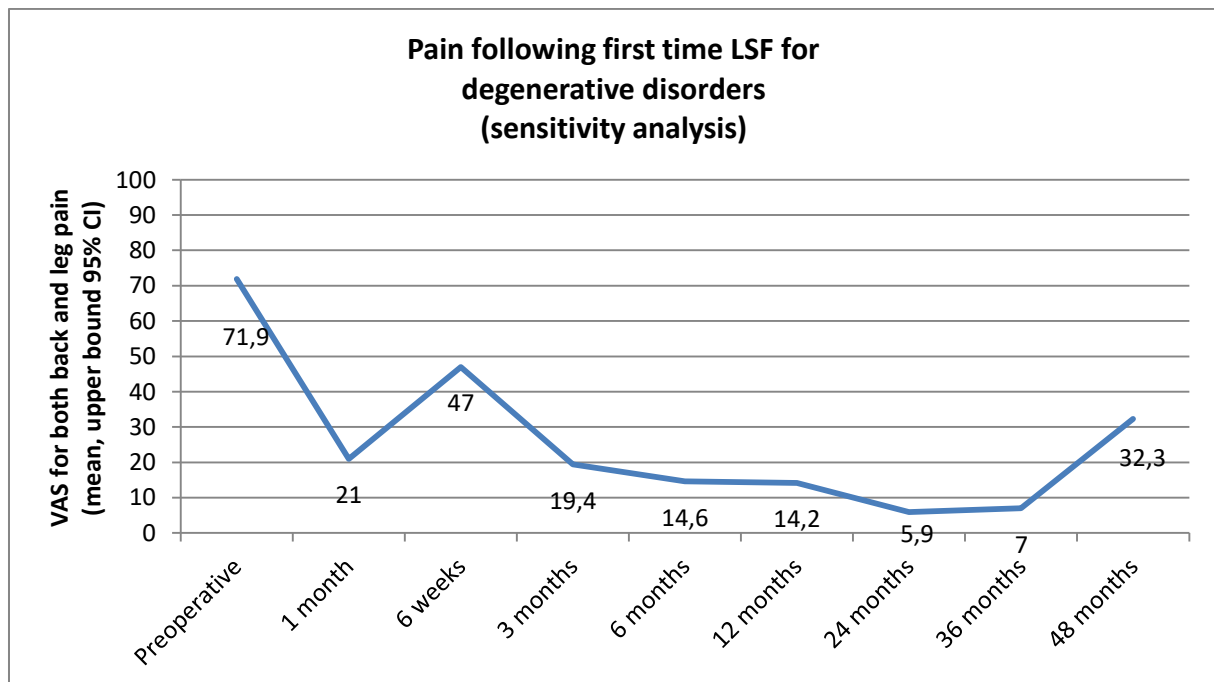
Pain following first time lumbar spinal fusion for degenerative disorders, measured with visual analogue scale for both back and leg pain (0 no pain, 100 maximum pain)

Meta-analysis

Follow-up interval	Variance weighted pooled mean	Upper bound 95% confidence interval	Number of studies	Number of participants
Preoperative	79	88	4	206
3 months	24	35	2	122
6 months	18	26	3	143

Sensitivity analysis

Follow-up interval	N weighted pooled mean	Number of studies	Number of participants
Preoperative	71.9	6	308
1 month	21	2	147
6 weeks	47	1	24
3 months	19.4	4	220
6 months	14.6	5	244
12 months	14.2	6	302
24 months	5.9	2	150
36 months	7.0	1	98
48 months	32.3	1	52



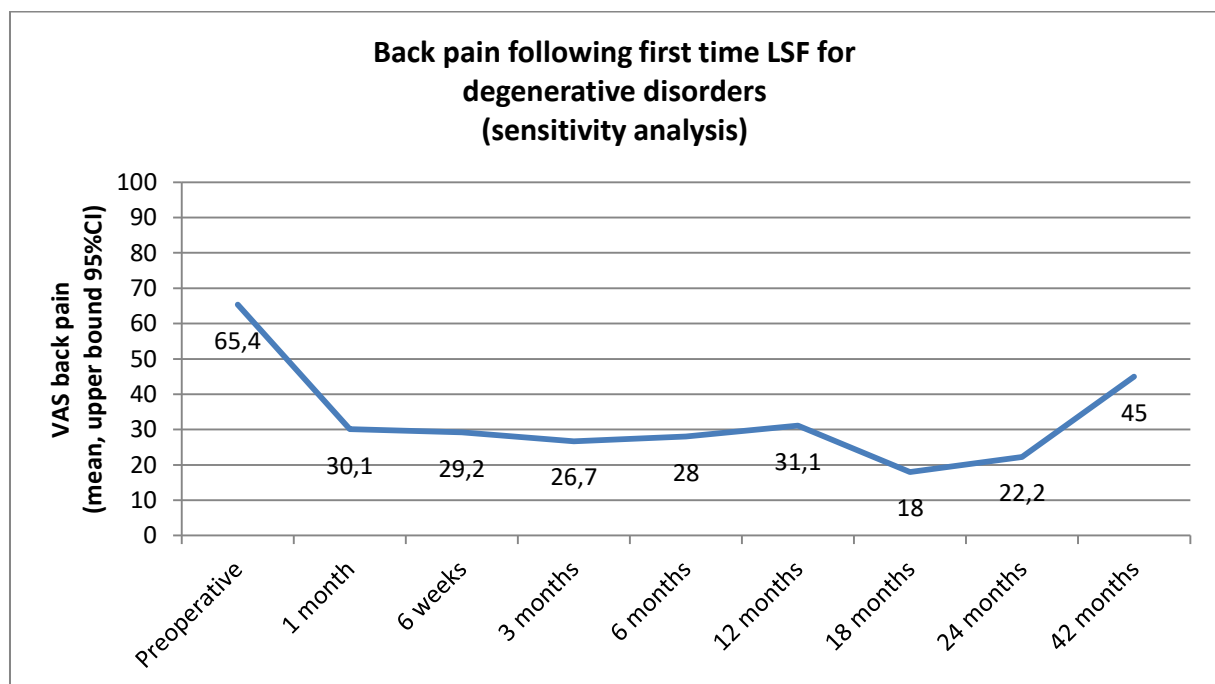
Back pain following first time lumbar spinal fusion for degenerative disorders, measured with back pain visual analogue scale (0 no pain, 100 maximum pain)

Meta-analysis

Follow-up interval	Variance weighted pooled mean	Upper bound 95% confidence interval	Number of studies	Number of participants
Preoperative	64	71	9	908
6 weeks	30	42	2	153
3 months	21	29	3	346
6 months	25	33	4	416
12 months	22	27	6	475
24 months	20	24	4	291

Sensitivity analysis

Follow-up interval	N weighted pooled mean	Number of studies	Number of participants
Preoperative	65.4	12	984
1 month	30.1	2	261
6 weeks	29.2	2	153
3 months	26.7	4	372
6 months	28.0	5	440
12 months	31.1	10	735
18 months	18.0	1	83
24 months	22.2	6	366
42 months	45.0	1	30



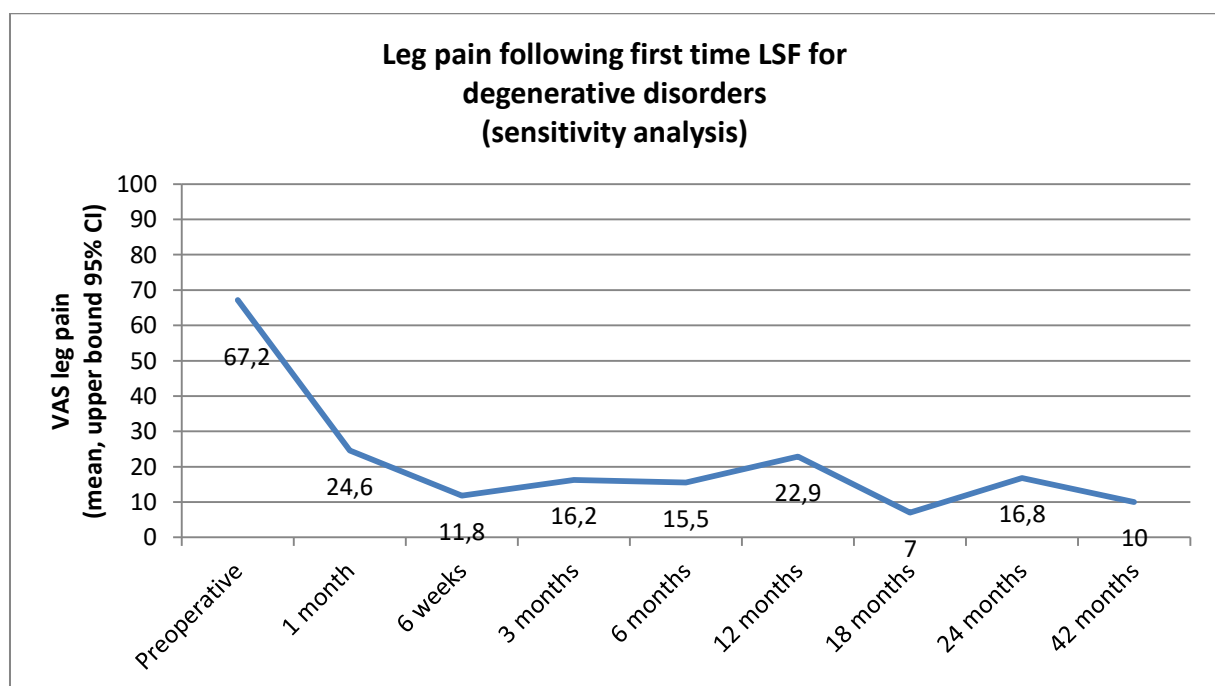
Leg pain following first time lumbar spinal fusion for degenerative disorders, measured with leg pain visual analogue scale (0 no pain, 100 maximum pain)

Meta-analysis

Follow-up interval	Variance weighted pooled mean	Upper bound 95% confidence interval	Number of studies	Number of participants
Preoperative	70	74	9	859
1 month	25	28	2	262
3 months	11	19	3	346
6 months	11	18	3	347
12 months	15	20	5	415
24 months	17	23	4	265

Sensitivity analysis

Follow-up interval	N weighted pooled mean	Number of studies	Number of participants
Preoperative	67.2	12	955
1 month	24.6	2	262
6 weeks	11.8	2	103
3 months	16.2	4	366
6 months	15.5	4	367
12 months	22.9	8	665
18 months	7.0	1	83
24 months	16.8	5	323
42 months	10.0	1	30



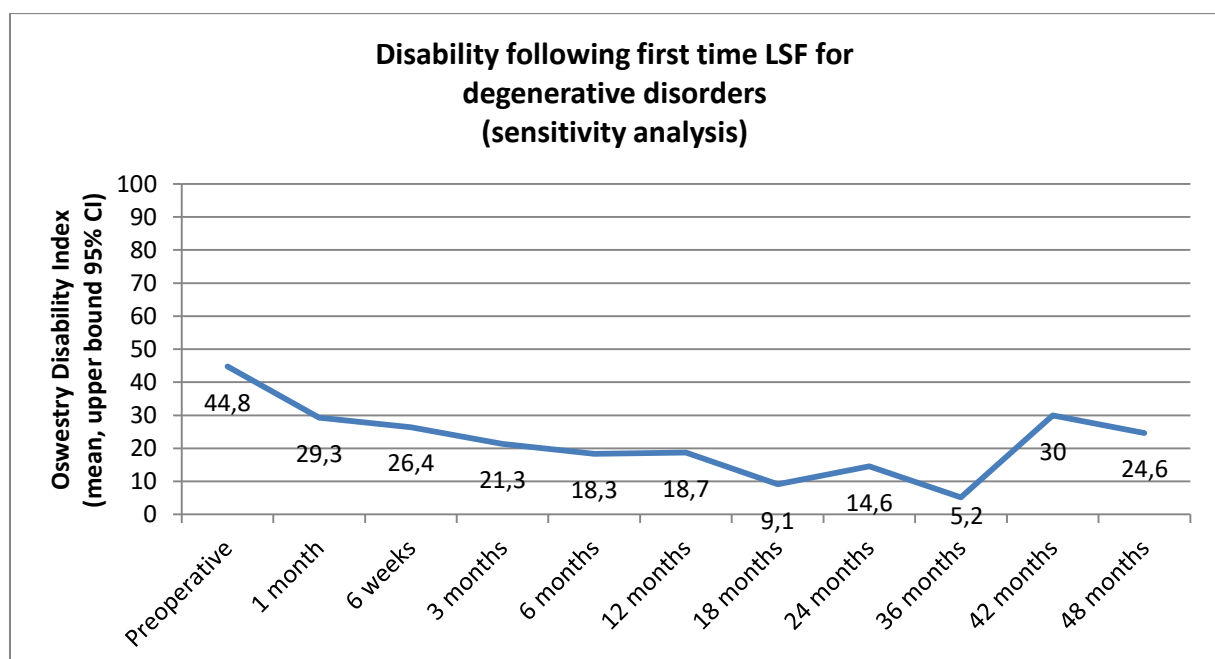
Disability following first time lumbar spinal fusion for degenerative disorders, measured with Oswestry disability index (0 no disability, 100 maximum disability)

Meta-analysis

Follow-up interval	Variance weighted pooled mean	Upper bound 95% confidence interval	Number of studies	Number of participants
Preoperative	44.8	49.4	12	1066
1 month	21.9	38.6	2	332
6 weeks	27.2	38.2	3	180
3 months	18.2	25.6	4	432
6 months	17.1	22.1	6	524
12 months	16.4	20.9	8	611
24 months	17.3	22.8	6	418

Sensitivity analysis

Follow-up interval	N weighted pooled mean	Number of studies	Number of participants
Preoperative	44.8	20	1373
1 month	29.3	4	407
6 weeks	26.4	4	200
3 months	21.3	11	576
6 months	18.3	9	692
12 months	18.7	15	1015
18 months	9.1	1	83
24 months	14.6	10	603
36 months	5.2	1	98
42 months	30	1	30
48 months	24.6	1	52



Article name: Pain and disability after first-time spinal fusion for lumbar degenerative disorders: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Journal name: European Spine Journal

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