



Editorial



As surgeons we concern ourselves with patient outcomes and assume a good outcome includes pain relief and a well aligned radiograph. Increasingly our patients demand more from surgery, be it return to high level tennis after hip resurfacing or simply returning to work and leisure activities. In this issue Raoul et al investigate return to sport following anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction [1]. The study included a range of athletic ability from professional athletes to 'weekend warriors' taking part in a range of sports. Of those patients studied, half the cohort returned to running after 6.5 months with one third returning to the same pre-injury sports after a mean of 8.7 months. They found that only one in five patients had a satisfactory functional recovery at a mean of six months from reconstruction and that this was related to return to sport.

The ability to return to driving is also integral in recovery from surgery and an important parameter that is investigated in the work of Latz et al [2]. They investigated the range of motion of knees during driving in healthy individuals in left sided cars with manual gears. Whilst the study sample size was small and limited to left sided cars the results are never the less interesting but should be taken in context with vision and cognitive skills that are also important to ensure safe driving.

Continuing the theme of return to recreational activities after surgery, Clement et al [3] investigated the relationship of patient satisfaction and return to recreational activities after knee replacement. The study team analysed a large cohort of patients and found that patient satisfaction with recreational activities was significantly lower than satisfaction with overall outcome. The study analysed data over a 14 year period and it would be interesting to see whether expectations have changed over time and whether we should be asking what patients want from their surgery and managing their expectations accordingly rather than using generic scores.

References

- [1] Raoul T, Klouche S, Guerrier B, El-Hariri B, Herman S, Gerometta A, et al. Are athletes able to resume sport at six-month mean follow-up after anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction? Prospective functional and psychological assessment from the French Anterior Cruciate Ligament Study (FAST) cohort. *Knee* 2019;26: 155–64.
- [2] Latz D, Schiffner E, Schnependahl J, Klein K, Oezel L, Seiler LF, et al. Doctor, when can I drive? – Range of motion of the knee while driving a car. *Knee* 2019;26: 33–40.
- [3] Clement ND, Walker LC, Merrie K, Bardgett M, Weir D, Holland J, et al. Which patients are satisfied with their overall outcome but dissatisfied with their return to recreational activities after total knee arthroplasty? *Knee* 2019;26:258–66.

Caroline B. Hing
Oday Al Dadah
Editors in Chief