Review Article

Meta-analysis of the Efficacy of the Anatomical Center and High Hip Center Techniques in the Treatment of Adult Developmental Dysplasia of the Hip

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Received 26 April 2022; Accepted 11 August 2022; Published 30 August 2022

Academic Editor: Antonio Capone

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Background. In total hip arthroplasty for the treatment of adult developmental dysplasia of the hip, there is considerable controversy regarding the placement of the acetabular cup, anatomic center, and upward in acetabular reconstruction. This article explores the efficacy of the anatomical center technique and high hip center technique in the treatment of adult developmental dysplasia of the hip. Method. By searching for articles in the Cochrane Library, PubMed, CNKI, and Wanfang databases, we collected the literature on the treatment of adult developmental dysplasia of the hip by anatomical center and high hip center technology and screened the literature according to the inclusion and exclusion criteria. The Cochrane risk of bias assessment tool was used to assess the risk of bias of randomized controlled trials, the quality of the literature in retrospective cohort studies was assessed using the Newcastle–Ottawa scale, and the RevMan 5.4 software was used to analyze the extracted outcome indicators. Results. Nine studies were finally included, including one prospective cohort study, eight retrospective cohort studies, two high-quality studies, and six moderate-quality studies. The meta-analysis results showed that the reconstruction of the acetabulum in two positions was significantly different in terms of operation time (WMD = −37, 95% CI: −45.25–28.74, P < 0.00001), intraoperative blood loss (WMD = −91.88, 95% CI: −108.57–75.19, P < 0.00001), postoperative drainage volume (WMD = 80.55, 95% CI: −140.56–301.66, P = 0.48), time to ground (WMD = −0.68, 95% CI: −1.37–0.0, P = 0.05), Harris score (WMD = −0.91, 95% CI: −1.22–0.64, P = 0.83), WOMAC score (WMD = −1.24, 95% CI: −4.89–2.41, P = 0.51), postoperative complications (RD = −0.02, 95% CI: −0.06–0.02, P = 0.44), Trendelenburg sign (RD = −0.02, 95% CI: −0.02–0.5, P = 0.31), limb lengthening (WMD = 0.85, 95% CI: 0.61–1.09, P < 0.00001), prosthesis wear (WMD = 0.01, 95% CI: 0–0.02, P = 0.17), and prosthesis loosening (RD = 0.01, 95% CI: −0.02–0.04, P = 0.45). Conclusions. The high hip center technique can reduce operative time, intraoperative blood loss, and downtime. The anatomical center technique is superior to the high hip center technique in terms of limb lengthening. Compared with acetabular anatomical reconstruction, there was no significant difference in postoperative drainage, lower limb length difference, postoperative complications, Trendelenburg sign, and prosthesis survival or wear. For DDH patients who are not severely shortened in the lower limbs and have severe acetabular bone defects, joint surgeons can choose to reconstruct the acetabulum in the upper part to simplify the operation, reduce the trauma of the patient, and accelerate the recovery of the patient, and they can choose to adjust the length of the neck and the angle of the neck shaft to maintain the moment arm of the abductor muscle. A ceramic interface or a highly cross-linked polyethylene interface minimizes the effect of hip response forces. To further evaluate the efficacy of the anatomical center technique and the high hip center technique in the treatment of adult developmental dysplasia of the hip, more large-sample, high-quality, long-term follow-up randomized controlled trials are still needed for verification.
1. Introduction

Developmental dysplasia of the hip is due to abnormal acetabular development leading to poor acetabular inclusion of the femoral head, and long-term biomechanical changes lead to severe osteoarthritis, accompanied by different degrees of femoral head dislocation and acetabular bone loss. Total hip arthroplasty is one of the most effective ways to manage end-stage pain, improve function, and improve quality of life in patients with hip osteoarthritis. Severe acetabular bone defects pose great challenges to joint surgeons, and there has been controversy over whether the acetabulum should be reconstructed anatomically or high. Some scholars believe that the upward placement of the acetabular cup alters the biomechanics of the hip joint, accelerating prosthesis wear, limb shortening, and abductor failure [1–6]. Others believe that the upper internal cup is placed, and the neck stem angle and neck length can be adjusted within an appropriate range to maintain the abductor muscle arm [6]. With the improvement of the prosthesis technology, it has a great impact on the response force of the joint. The magnitude of reduction [7] and the wear of the prosthesis were not significantly different from those of anatomic center reconstruction [8, 9].

The research subject of this article is adult developmental dysplasia of the hip treated by total hip arthroplasty. The anatomical center technique and the high hip center technique were compared, and a meta-analysis of the outcome indicators after total hip arthroplasty was performed. The efficacy of this surgical technique provides more evidence-based medical evidence for the treatment of adult developmental dysplasia of the hip.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1. Literature Search Strategy

2.1.1. Searcher. The first author performed the literature search.

2.1.2. Search Databases. Data were obtained from Cochrane Library, MEDLINE, PubMed, CNKI, and Wanfang databases.

2.1.3. Search Terms. The search terms were (Anatomic Hip Center) OR (High Hip Center) AND (Developmental Dysplasia of the Hip OR Hip Dislocation, Developmental OR Developmental Hip Dislocations OR Dislocation, Developmental Hip OR Developmental Hip Dislocation OR Developmental Hip Dysplasia OR Developmental Hip Dysplasias OR Dysplasia, Developmental Hip OR Hip Dysplasia, Developmental) AND (Arthroplasty, Replacement, Hip OR Arthroplasties, Replacement, Hip OR Arthroplasty, Hip Replacement OR Hip Prosthesis Implantation OR Hip Prosthesis Implantations OR Implantation, Hip Prosthesis OR Prosthesis Implantation, Hip OR Hip Replacement Arthroplasty OR (Replacement Arthroplasties, Hip OR Replacement Arthroplasty, Hip OR Arthroplasties, Hip Replacement OR Hip Replacement Arthroplasties OR Hip Replacement, Total OR Total Hip Replacement OR Total Hip Arthroplasty OR Arthroplasty, Total Hip OR Hip Arthroplasty, Total).

2.1.4. Search Time Range. The retrieved articles were not subject to publication time constraints.

2.1.5. Literature Search Strategy. The search was performed using subject headings and free words, taking PubMed as an example (see Table 1 for details).

2.2. Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

2.2.1. Inclusion Criteria. The included literature follows the PICO principles: (1) research subjects: adult developmental dysplasia of the hip with secondary osteoarthritis and total hip replacement for the first time. (2) The high hip center technique was used in the experimental group during total hip arthroplasty, while the anatomical center technique was used in the control group during total hip arthroplasty. (3) Control comparison: the patients treated with the high hip center technique were compared with the patients treated with the anatomical center technique. (4) Outcome indicators: the main outcome indicators were operation time, intraoperative blood loss, postoperative drainage volume, postoperative complications, time to the ground, lower limb length difference, limb lengthening, Harris score, WOMAC score, Trendelenburg sign, prosthesis wear rate, and prosthesis loosening rate. (5) Type of literature: the meta-analysis included randomized controlled trials, case-control studies, and cohort studies using anatomical center techniques and high hip center techniques in adults with developmental dysplasia of the hip secondary to osteoarthritis for the first time in total hip replacement.

2.2.2. Exclusion Criteria. The exclusion criteria are as follows: (1) studies without a control group; (2) studies with a severe lack of literature data; and (3) case reports, conference papers, reviews, and other literature.

2.3. Data Extraction and Processing. Relevant documents retrieved from the databases were imported into NoteExpress 3.4, and duplicate documents were removed through the software’s functions. Two professionally trained researchers read the titles and abstracts of the literature for preliminary screening, and the remaining studies were read in full text and further screened according to the inclusion and exclusion criteria. A table for extracting data and information was made. Disputes were resolved through discussion with a third senior orthopedic physician.

2.4. Literature Quality Evaluation. This study followed the requirements of the PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses) statement [10]. The risk of bias for randomized controlled trials was assessed using the Cochrane Risk of Bias Tool (https://www.cochranelibrary.com/). The quality of the retrospective cohort studies was evaluated using the Newcastle–Ottawa scale. The full score of this scale is 9 points, ≥7 indicates high-quality literature, 5–6 indicates medium-quality literature, and <5 indicates low-quality literature. The first author of this article and a senior orthopedic physician
3. Results

3.1. Literature Search Results and Process. A total of 845 related studies were retrieved from five Chinese and foreign databases (Cochrane Library, MEDLINE, PubMed, CNKI, and the Wanfang databases), and 9 studies were finally included. The detailed screening process is shown in Figure 1. The basic characteristics of the included studies are shown in Table 2.

3.2. Quality Assessment and Risk of Bias of Included Studies. Nine studies with a total of 571 patients were included, including 288 patients using the high hip center technique and 283 patients using the anatomical center technique. One randomized controlled trial assessed the quality of the literature according to the risk of bias assessment criteria recommended by the Cochrane Handbook (Figures 2 and 3). Eight retrospective cohort studies were assessed by the NOS scale, of which 2 were of high quality and 6 were of moderate quality (see Table 3).

3.3. Meta-Analysis Results

3.3.1. Differences in Operation Time between Groups. Three included studies compared operative time [14–16]. The meta-analysis results showed significant heterogeneity ($I^2 = 85\%, P = 0.001$). A sensitivity analysis was performed to find the source of heterogeneity. After excluding the literature by Zhang et al. [14], the heterogeneity decreased most significantly ($I^2 = 66\%$). However, there was still significant heterogeneity. From a careful reading of the full text, it may be related to the fewer cases of structural bone grafting in the control group, but Zhang et al. [14] separately analyzed the placement of structural bone grafts. The high hip center technique significantly increased the operation time (average 250 minutes vs. 145 minutes) [14]. Therefore, the random-effects model analysis was used, and the results showed that the operation time of the high hip center technique and the anatomical center technique was shorter (WMD = $-37$, 95% CI: -45.25-28.74, $P < 0.00001$), as shown in Figure 4.

3.3.2. Differences in Intraoperative Blood Loss between the Groups. Three included studies compared intraoperative blood loss [14–16]. The meta-analysis showed slight heterogeneity ($I^2 = 31\%, P = 0.23$) using a fixed-effects model. The results showed that compared with the anatomical center technique, the high hip center technique had less intraoperative blood loss (WMD = $-91.88$, 95% CI: -108.57-75.19, $P < 0.00001$), as shown in Figure 5.
3.3.3. Differences in Postoperative Drainage Volume between Groups. Two included studies compared the postoperative drainage volume [14, 16]. The meta-analysis results showed significant heterogeneity ($I^2 = 83\%$, $P = 0.02$), so a random-effects model was used. The results showed no significant difference in postoperative drainage between the high hip
3.3.4. Differences in the Time of Going to the Ground between Groups. In the included studies, two studies compared the time of going to the ground [14, 16]. The meta-analysis results showed no significant heterogeneity ($I^2 = 0\%$, $P = 0.67$) using a fixed-effects model. The results showed that the time spent on the ground in patients with the high hip center technique was less than that in the anatomical center technique ($WMD = -0.68$, 95% CI: -1.37-0.0, $P = 0.05$) (see Figure 7).

3.3.5. Differences in Postoperative Harris Scores between Groups. Seven included studies compared postoperative Harris scores [8, 12–17]. The meta-analysis results showed slight heterogeneity ($I^2 = 24\%$, $P = 0.24$) using a fixed-effects model. The results showed no significant difference in the postoperative Harris score between the high hip center technique and the anatomical center technique ($WMD = -0.04$, 95% CI: -0.91-0.82, $P = 0.92$) (see Figure 8).

3.3.6. Differences in Limb Length Difference between the Groups. Five of the included studies compared differences in limb length difference [12, 14–17]. The meta-analysis showed no significant heterogeneity ($I^2 = 0\%$, $P = 0.63$) using a fixed-effects model. The results showed no significant difference in limb length between the high hip center technique and the anatomical center technique ($WMD = 0.21$, 95% CI: -0.22-0.64, $P = 0.33$) (see Figure 9).

3.3.7. Differences in WOMAC Scores in Each Group. Two of the included studies compared postoperative WOMAC scores [11, 14]. The meta-analysis results showed no significant heterogeneity ($I^2 = 0\%$, $P = 0.53$) using a fixed-effects model. The results showed no significant difference in the postoperative WOMAC score between the high hip center technique and the anatomical center technique ($WMD = -1.24$, 95% CI: -4.89-2.41, $P = 0.51$) (see Figure 10).

3.3.8. Differences in Postoperative Complications between Groups. Seven included studies compared postoperative complications [8, 11–14, 16, 17]. The meta-analysis results showed no significant heterogeneity ($I^2 = 0\%$, $P = 0.94$) using a fixed-effects model. The results showed no significant difference between the high hip center technique and the anatomical center technique in terms of postoperative complications ($RD = -0.02$, 95% CI: -0.06-0.02, $P = 0.44$) (see Figure 11).


3.3.9. Differences in the Postoperative Trendelenburg Sign between Groups. Six included studies compared the postoperative Trendelenburg sign [8, 12, 13, 15–17]. The meta-analysis results showed no significant heterogeneity \((I^2 = 0\%, \ P = 0.81)\) using a fixed-effects model. The results showed no significant difference between the high hip center technique and the anatomical center technique in terms of the postoperative Trendelenburg sign \((RD = -0.02, 95\% CI: -0.02-0.05, P = 0.31)\) (see Figure 12).

3.3.10. Differences in the Length of Limb Lengthening between Groups. Two of the included studies compared limb lengthening [8, 14]. The meta-analysis showed heterogeneity \((I^2 = 49\%, \ P = 0.16)\) using a fixed-effects model. The results showed that the anatomical center technique was superior to the high hip center technique in terms of limb lengthening \((WMD = 0.85, 95\% CI: 0.61-1.09, P < 0.0001)\), as shown in Figure 13.

3.3.11. Differences in Prosthesis Wear in Each Group. Two of the included studies compared prosthesis wear [8, 9]. Meta-analysis results showed no significant heterogeneity \((I^2 = 0\% , \ P = 0.6)\) using a fixed-effects model. The results showed no significant difference in prosthesis wear between the high hip center technique and the anatomical center technique \((WMD = 0.01, 95\% CI: 0.00-0.02, P = 0.17)\) (see Figure 14).

3.3.12. Differences in Prosthesis Loosening in Each Group. Five of the included studies compared prosthesis wear [11, 13, 15–17]. The meta-analysis showed no significant heterogeneity \((I^2 = 0\%, \ P = 0.85)\) using a fixed-effects model. The results showed no significant difference in prosthesis loosening between the high hip center technique and the anatomical center technique \((RD = 0.00, 95\% CI: 0.00-0.04, P = 0.45)\) (see Figure 15).

4. Discussion

4.1. Summary of the Evidence. Adult DHH is prone to secondary osteoarthritis, which significantly reduces the quality of life of patients. At present, total hip replacement is one of the most important treatment methods. The purpose of its treatment is to improve the function of the hip joint and relieve pain. However, acetabular reconstruction is still an important challenge for patients with Crowe II and III DHH. Anatomical reconstruction of the acetabulum can reduce the stress of the hip joint, avoid the failure of the abductor muscles, and effectively restore the length of the lower extremity. Anatomical reconstruction of the acetabulum can reduce the stress of the hip joint, avoid the failure of the abductor muscles, and effectively restore the length of the lower extremity. Anatomical reconstruction of the acetabulum can reduce the stress of the hip joint, avoid the failure of the abductor muscles, and effectively restore the length of the lower extremity. Anatomical reconstruction of the acetabulum can reduce the stress of the hip joint, avoid the failure of the abductor muscles, and effectively restore the length of the lower extremity.
bone resorption and bone nonunion after bone grafting, simplify the operation difficulty, and reduce the operation time, intraoperative blood loss, and surgery costs. However, it changes the biomechanics of the hip joint. Therefore, whether to choose anatomical reconstruction or high placement for the treatment of adult DHH has always been an issue for joint surgeons to consider.

This study included one randomized controlled study and eight retrospective, controlled studies for a meta-analysis. Studies have shown that the anatomical center technique has a longer operative time and more intraoperative blood loss. The reason is that to increase the cup coverage, structural bone grafting or the use of tantalum trabecular bone reinforcement technology is needed, thus
increasing the difficulty and time of the operation. The results of the operation time analysis showed obvious heterogeneity. The sensitivity analysis of the literature and the exclusion of the literature by Zhang et al. [14] could reduce the heterogeneity, but there was still significant heterogeneity, which may be inconsistent with the surgeon’s proficiency in surgery. The proficiency of surgical assistants and instrument nurses was inconsistent, and the standard of operation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study or subgroup</th>
<th>Experimental</th>
<th>Control</th>
<th>Mean difference</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ge.C.2021</td>
<td>2.77 1.33</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>2.39 1.09 31</td>
<td>50.6% 0.38 (–0.23, 0.99)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REN.P.2015</td>
<td>3.12 2.51</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>3.2 2.18 38</td>
<td>16.3% –0.08 (–1.15, 0.99)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shen, J.2021</td>
<td>4.1 6.6</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>6 7 19</td>
<td>1.1% –1.90 (–6.05, 2.25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WANG.Z.Z.2018</td>
<td>3.8 2.1</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>3.5 1.6 28</td>
<td>28.8% 0.30 (–0.50, 1.10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zhang, Z.2017</td>
<td>5.66 4.52</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>6.67 3.44 21</td>
<td>3.1% –1.01 (–3.44, 1.42)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total (95% CI) 170 137 100.0% 0.21 (–0.22, 0.64)

Figure 9: Meta-analysis forest plot for comparison of limb length difference between the two groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study or subgroup</th>
<th>Experimental</th>
<th>Control</th>
<th>Mean difference</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Traina, F.2009</td>
<td>18.5 16</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>18.31 11.5 44</td>
<td>39.2% 0.20 (–5.62, 6.02)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zhang, Z.2017</td>
<td>13.19 7.79</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>15.36 7.68 21</td>
<td>60.8% –2.17 (–6.85, 2.51)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total (95%) 65 65 100.0% –1.24 (–4.89, 2.41)

Heterogeneity: Chi² = 0.39, df = 1 (P = 0.53); I² = 0%
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.67 (P = 0.51)

Figure 10: Meta-analysis forest plot for comparison of postoperative WOMAC scores between the two groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study or subgroup</th>
<th>Experimental</th>
<th>Control</th>
<th>Risk difference</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christodoulou, 2010</td>
<td>2 34</td>
<td>0 70</td>
<td>22.7% 0.06 (–0.03, 0.15)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ge.C.2021</td>
<td>0 31</td>
<td>0 31</td>
<td>15.4% 0.00 (–0.06, 0.06)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REN.P.2015</td>
<td>0 37</td>
<td>0 38</td>
<td>18.6% 0.00 (–0.05, 0.05)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shen, J.2021</td>
<td>2 23</td>
<td>1 19</td>
<td>10.3% 0.03 (–0.12, 0.19)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WANG.Z.Z.2018</td>
<td>0 58</td>
<td>0 28</td>
<td>18.8% 0.00 (–0.05, 0.05)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zhu, X.P.2017</td>
<td>0 33</td>
<td>0 25</td>
<td>14.1% 0.00 (–0.07, 0.07)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (95%)</td>
<td>216 211</td>
<td></td>
<td>100.0% 0.02 (–0.02, 0.05)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total events 4 1

Heterogeneity: Chi² = 2.30, df = 5 (P = 0.81); I² = 0%
Test for overall effect: Z = 1.02 (P = 0.31)

Figure 12: Meta-analysis forest plot for the comparison of the postoperative Trendelenburg sign between the two groups.
time recording was different. Although only two studies mentioned the postoperative drainage volume, the results of the analysis showed no significant difference between the experimental group and the control group, and there was obvious heterogeneity. The reasons may be related to the use of hemostatic drugs and the dose of anticoagulant drugs during the perioperative period, intraoperative soft tissue release and clearance of surrounding osteophytes, and the coagulation function of patients. The cost of hospitalization was only mentioned in the literature by Zhang et al. [14]. The argument is weak and not used as the primary outcome measure, but the results show that the high hip center technique costs an average of $270 less than the anatomical center technique [14].

The meta-analysis forest plot showed no significant differences in the lower extremity length difference, postoperative complications, prosthesis wear, prosthesis loosening, WOMAC score, Harris score, or Trendelenburg sign. Stirling et al. [18] systematically reviewed 475 cases of total hip arthroplasty due to osteoarthritis secondary to DDH (207 cases with cup upward placement and 268 cases with cup anatomical reconstruction). The results showed no significant differences in Harris scores and revision rates. These findings are consistent with the conclusions of this study. However, some studies contradict the results of this paper. Karaismailoglu et al. [19] and other studies believe that high hip center technology will increase the load of the hip joint and reduce the dynamic range of motion, thereby reducing the survival rate of the prosthesis and increasing the risk of falls. Research by Fukushi et al. [20] showed that the high hip center technique significantly delayed the recovery of abductor muscle strength. Due to the short follow-up time of the included articles, more high-quality, long-term follow-up studies need to be included for analysis.

At present, there is no uniform standard for the upward placement of the acetabular cup in the high hip center.
The high hip center technique can reduce operative time, intraoperative blood loss, and downtime. The anatomical center technique is superior to the high hip center technique in terms of limb lengthening. Compared with acetabular anatomical reconstruction, there was no significant difference in postoperative drainage, lower limb length difference, postoperative complications, Trendelenburg sign, and prosthesis survival or wear. When treating DDH patients who are not severely shortened in the lower limbs and who have severe acetabular bone defects, joint surgeons can choose to reconstruct the acetabulum in the upper part to simplify the operation, reduce the trauma of the patient, and accelerate the recovery of the patient, and they can choose to adjust the length of the neck and the angle of the neck shaft to maintain the moment arm of the abductor muscle. A ceramic interface or a highly cross-linked polyethylene interface minimizes the effect of hip response forces. To further evaluate the efficacy of the anatomical center technique and the high hip center technique in the treatment of adult developmental dysplasia of the hip, more large-sample, high-quality, long-term follow-up randomized controlled trials are still needed for verification.

Data Availability

All data used to support the findings of this study are included within the article.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

References


