Increase in hip and knee replacements over past 5 years

Canadian Joint Replacement Registry 2014 Annual Report

Hip and knee replacements increase while revisions hold steady

In 2012–2013, there were 47,137 acute care hospitalizations for all hip replacements in Canada and 57,718 for all knee replacements, representing a 5-year increase of 16.5% for hip replacements and 21.5% for knee replacements.

Key findings

• The most common diagnosis requiring hip or knee replacement surgery was degenerative arthritis. The most common reason for revision was aseptic loosening (weakening of the bond between the patient’s bone and the implant).

• The median length of stay for hip replacement patients decreased from 5 days (from 2008–2009 to 2011–2012) to 4 days in 2012–2013. Knee replacement patients continued to have a 4-day median length of stay.

• The greatest rate increase in knee replacements was for patients age 45 to 64 for both genders.

• Revisions are more complex than primary joint replacements and have a number of implications for the patient. In 2012–2013, 9.4% of hip and 6.7% of knee procedures were revisions. The percentage of revisions has remained stable over the past 5 years.