

**Table E-1. Distribution of Publication in Journals**

Journal	No. of Studies
Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses Journal	1
American Journal of Sports Medicine	18
Canadian Journal of Surgery	1
Cancer	1
Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research	24
Der Unfallchirurg	1
Der Chirurg	1
Foot and Ankle International	5
The Iowa Orthopaedic Journal	1
The Journal of Arthroplasty	12
Arthroscopy: The Journal of Arthroscopic and Related Surgery	5
Journal of Biomedical Materials Research	1
The Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery (American)	15
The Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery (British)	4
Journal of Hand Surgery (American)	3
Journal of Hand Surgery (British)	1
Journal of Louisiana State Medical Society	1
Journal of Neurosurgery	1
Journal of Orthopaedic Research	
Official Publication of the Orthopaedic Research Society	1
Journal of Orthopaedic Trauma	14
Journal of Pediatric Orthopaedics	7
Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery	5
Journal of Spinal Disorders	4
The Journal of Trauma, Infection, and Critical Care	4
Knee Surgery, Sports Traumatology, Arthroscopy	2
Mayo Clinic Proceedings	1
Medicine and Science in Sports and Exercise	1
Neurosurgery	1
Orthopedics	4
Pediatric Emergency Care	1
Skeletal Radiology	1
Spine	17
Total	159

**Table E-2. Study Methodology of Abstracts\***

	Abstracts Published (N=159)	Abstracts Not Published (N=306)
Study Design (%)		
Randomized Trial	4.4	5.2
Prospective Cohort	31.5	31.0
Retrospective Cohort	40.3	39.2
Systematic Review/Meta-analysis	0	0
Case Report (<5 pts)	0	1.0
Survey	0.6	0.7
Basic Science	23.3	22.9
Clearly defined hypothesis/objective (%)	83.0	84.0
Any Statistical Methods Presented	9.4	13.1
Primary Outcome Variable		
Continuous	57.2	62.1
Dichotomous	42.8	37.9
If Randomized Trial (n=7 P, n=16 NP) (%)		
Method of randomization stated	0	0
Concealed	0	0
Statement about blinding	14.3 (1/7)	25.0 (4/16)
Statement about follow-up		
Reported	28.6 (2/7)	12.5 (2/16)
Active follow-up	100 (2/2)	50.0 (1/2)
Mean follow-up	51.0	77.1
Statement about withdrawals/dropouts	14.3 (1/7)	0
Intention-to-treat analysis	0	0
If Observational Study (n=114 P, n=215 NP) (%)		
Statement about follow-up	41.2 (47/114)	38.1(82/215)
Active follow-up	44.7 (21/47)	51.2 (42/82)
Complete follow-up (mean)	79.8	78.1
Adjustment for confounding variables	2.6 (3/114)	4.7 (10/215)

\*Information as reported in the abstracts, P = published, NP = not published

**Table E-3. Rationale for the Decrease in Sample Size in Final Publications**

	Abstract Sample Size	Publication Sample Size	Loss of Sample Size	Explanation
1	12	8	4 (33%)	No Explanation
2	31	30	1 (3%)	No Explanation
3	454	453	1 (<1%)	No Explanation
4	49	48	1 (2%)	Loss to Follow-Up
5	23	16	7 (30%)	Loss to Follow-Up
6	422	421	1 (<1%)	Loss to Follow-Up
7	39	30	9 (23%)	Loss to Follow-Up
8	101	28	73 (72%)	No Explanation
9	230	182	48 (21%)	No Explanation
10	63	60	3 (4.8%)	Loss to Follow-Up
11	16	12	4 (25%)	Article Published Before Abstract
12	12	11	1 (8.3%)	No Explanation
13	175	163	12 (6.9%)	Loss to Follow-Up
14	25	23	2 (8%)	No Explanation

No Explanation = decrease in sample size from abstract to final publication without any plausible explanation.

Loss to Follow-Up = mention in abstract that follow-up was incomplete; however final publication uses the same sample size as that used in abstract with no mention of loss to follow-up (effectively omitting any previous patients that investigators were unable to follow). For example, the abstract in study 5 reports that 16 of 23 patients were available for follow-up; however, the final publication mentions that the total sample size was 16 (effectively omitting the fact that 7 were initially eligible).