



Robotics and Navigation in Hips - What is the Evidence?

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Disclosures/Financial Conflicts of
Interest: None

Robotic-assisted THA



Fully-Active
ROBODOC
(femoral component)

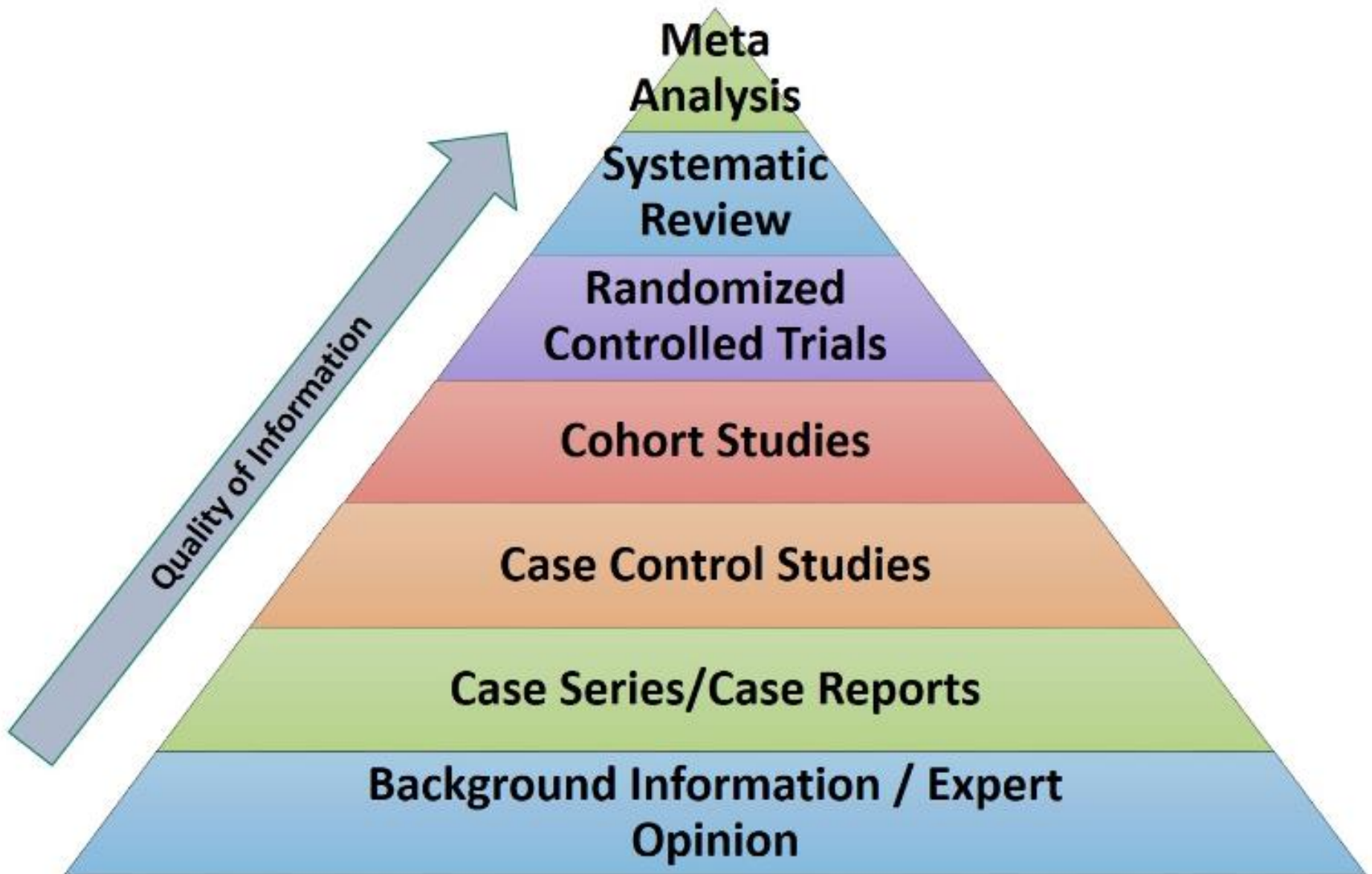


Semi-Active
Robotic-arm Assisted
(acetabular component)

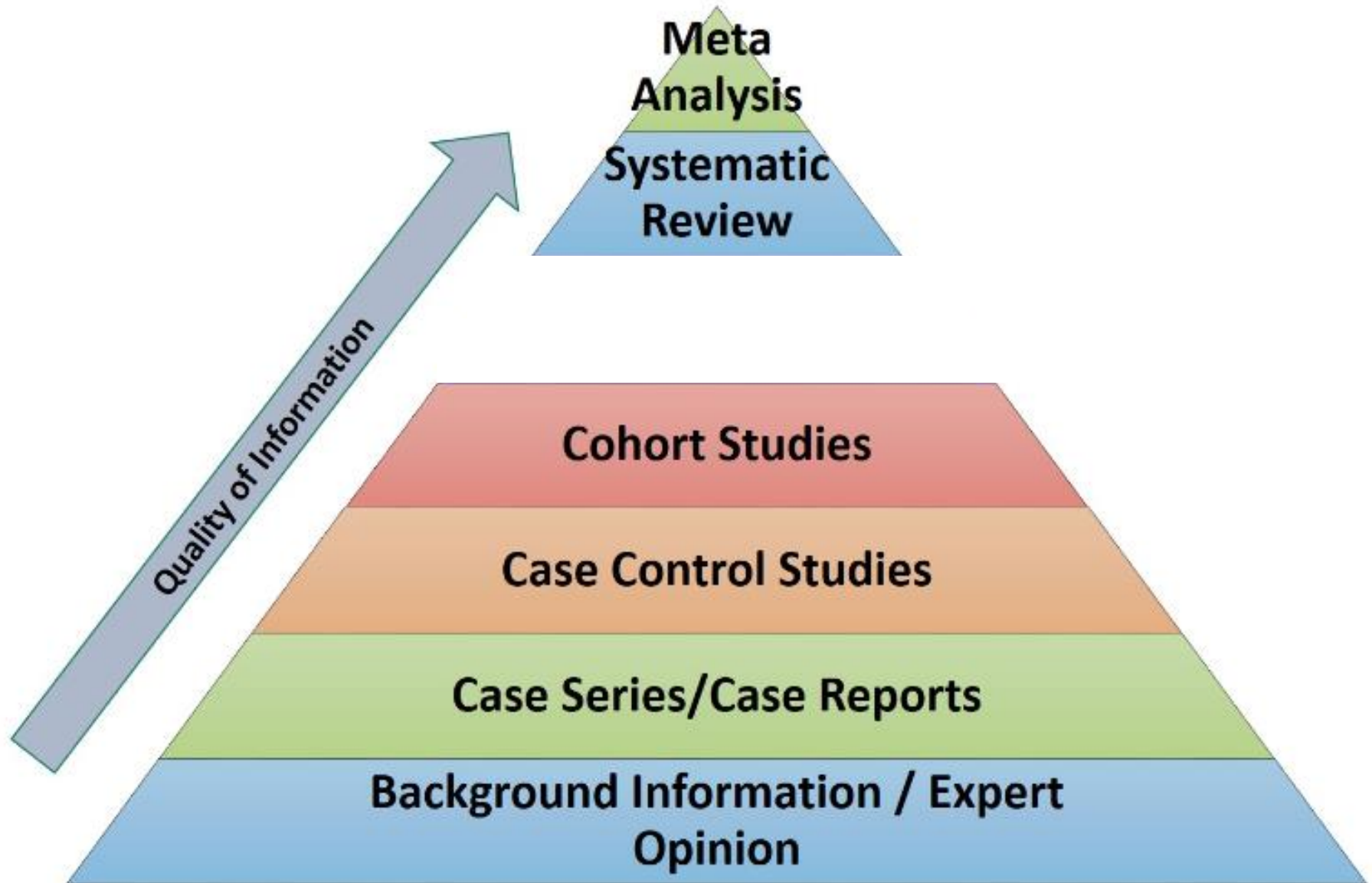
Published claims about robotic-arm assisted THA (rTHA)

- Higher accuracy and precision of implantation
- Increased patient satisfaction
- Increased return to activities of daily living
- Reduced complications such as dislocation
- Reduced utilization of health services
- Reduced payer costs
- Cost effective

Evidence Pyramid



Evidence Pyramid: No RCTs



COMPARISON OF OUTCOMES AFTER ROBOTIC-ASSISTED OR CONVENTIONAL TOTAL HIP ARTHROPLASTY AT A MINIMUM 2-YEAR FOLLOW-UP

A Systematic Review



■ SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

Robotic arm-assisted versus manual total hip arthroplasty

A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW AND META-ANALYSIS

OPEN

Research Article

Comparison of Surgical Time, Short-term Adverse Events, and Implant Placement Accuracy Between Manual, Robotic-assisted, and Computer-navigated Total Hip Arthroplasty: A Network Meta-analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials



Postgraduate Medical Journal, 2023, 99, 1171, 375–383

<https://doi.org/10.1136/postgradmedj-2021-141135>

Advance access publication date 17 December 2021

Review

Does robotic-assisted surgery improve outcomes of total hip arthroplasty compared to manual technique? A systematic review and meta-analysis

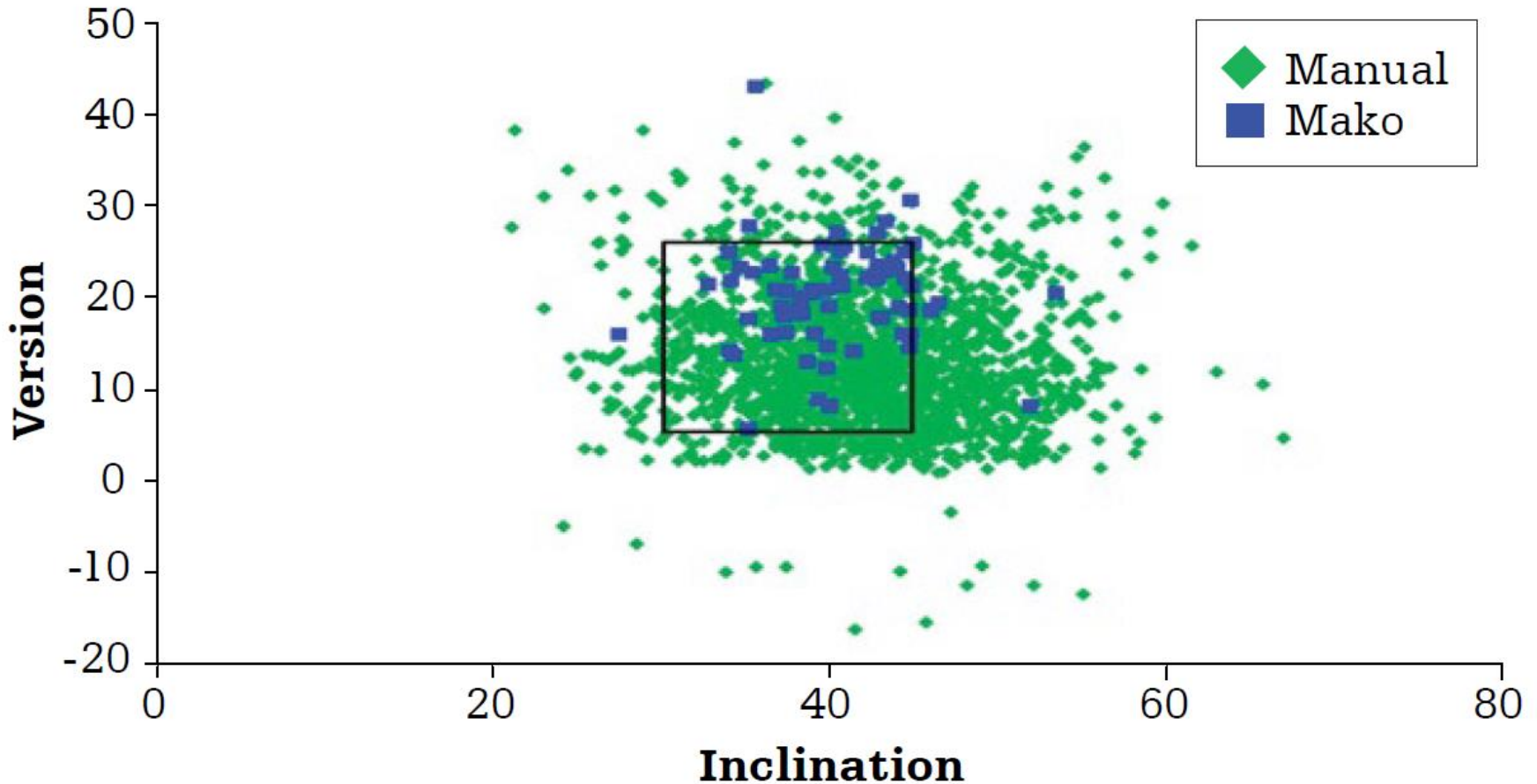
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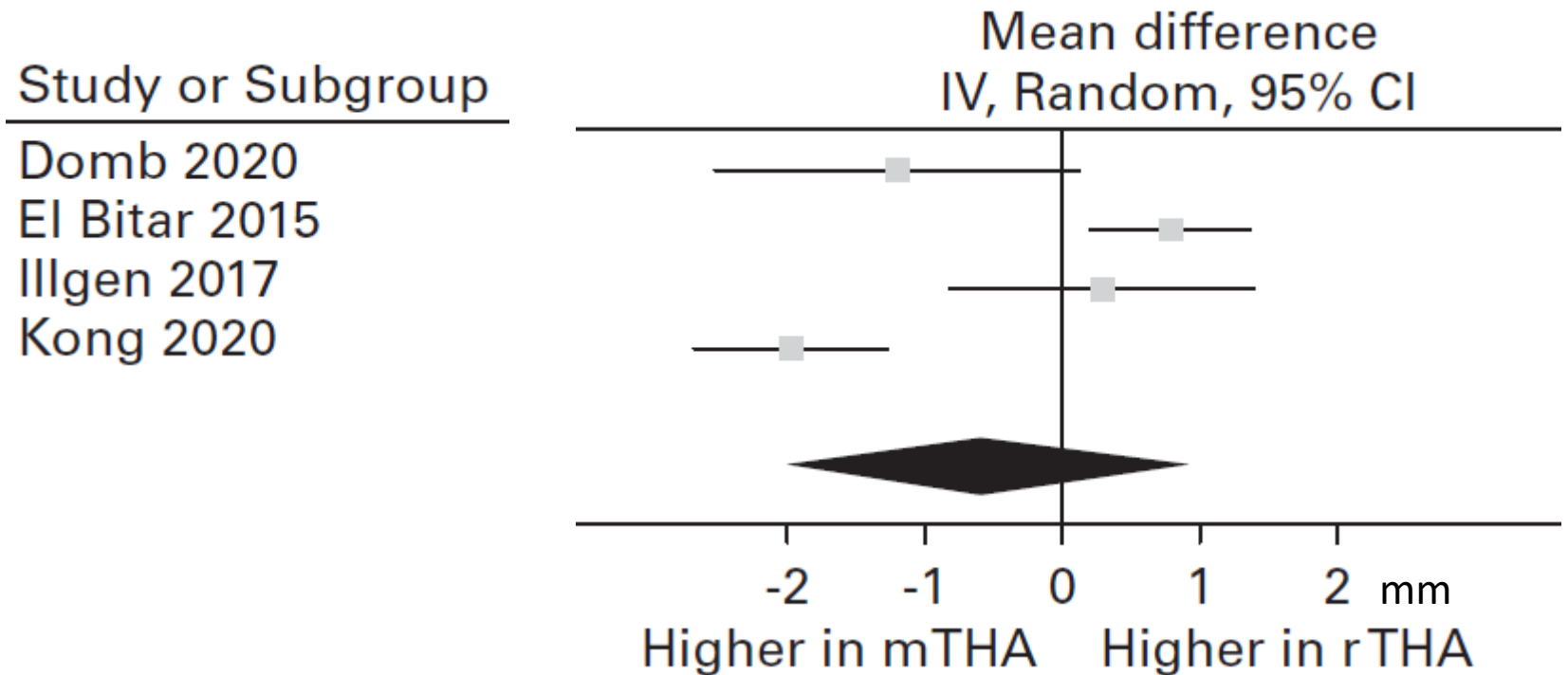
“The existing literature comparing robotic THA and manual THA is scarce and low-quality, with findings limited by methodological flaws in study design.”

Acetabular Component Positioning

Mako vs. manual cup placement



Leg-length Difference



Mean difference in leg-length inequality of 0.5 mm
(Not statistically or clinically significant)

Patient Reported Outcomes: Postoperative Harris Hip Score

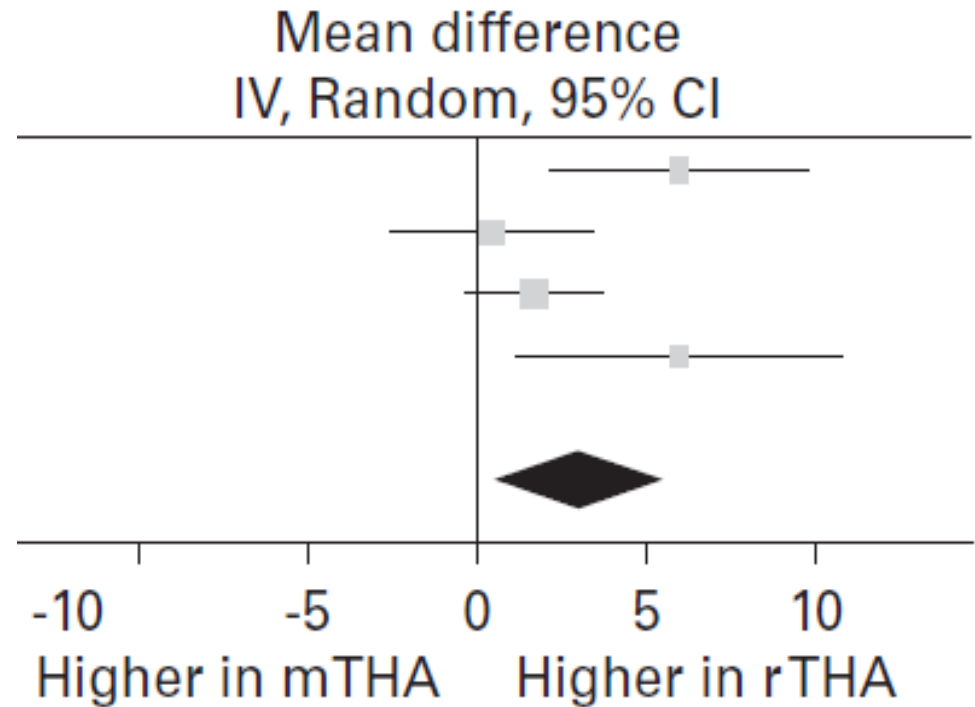
Study or Subgroup

Bukowski 2016

Banchetti 2018

Kong 2020

Domb 2020



**Statistically but not clinically significant
(difference less than minimal clinically important
difference)**

Systematic Review of Complications: No differences in

- Overall complication rates
- Infection rates
- Dislocation rates
- Revision rates



The Journal of Arthroplasty

journal homepage: www.arthroplastyjournal.org

Primary Hip

Patient-Reported Outcome Measures in Conventional Total Hip Arthroplasty Versus Robotic-Arm Assisted Arthroplasty: A Prospective Cohort Study With Minimum 3 Years' Follow-Up

- More accurate acetabular component positioning with rTHA
- No clinically or statistically significant differences in
 - Oxford Hip Score
 - UCLA Hip Score
 - Forgotten Joint Score

How does rTHA compare to Fluoroscopy?



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

The Journal of Arthroplasty

journal homepage: www.arthroplastyjournal.org

Primary Hip

A Comparison of Component Positioning Between Fluoroscopy-Assisted and Robotic-Assisted Total Hip Arthroplasty

Nathaniel J. Stewart, MD ^{a, *}, James L. Stewart, BS ^a, Abra Brisbin, PhD ^b



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- Retrospective comparison of Direct Anterior THA with either robotic assistance or fluoroscopy
- 0.8 degree difference in acetabular inclination error
- No significant difference in anteversion, leg length discrepancy, femoral offset, or global offset

Is rTHA Cost-Effective?

- **Added Costs**

- Robot: \$100,000s to \$1M
- Annual Maintenance/Service Contract
- Preoperative CT
- Disposables

- **Cost savings**

- Improved Quality of life?
- Decreased length of stay?
- Decreased SNF utilization?
- Decreased 90-day episode of care costs?

Is rTHA Cost Effective?

Advantages of robotic arm-assisted total hip arthroplasty: a 90-day episode-of-care clinical utility and cost analysis

Journal of **Comparative Effectiveness Research**

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- Does not take into account costs of
 - Robot
 - Service Contracts
 - Disposables

Conclusions: The best available evidence indicates that

- rTHA increases accuracy and precision of acetabular component positioning
- This has not led to meaningful improvements in function, complications, or revision rates
- Use of fluoroscopy can lead to similar radiographic results
- rTHA increases health-care costs





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Systematic Review and Meta Analysis

The Impact of Author Financial Conflicts on Robotic-Assisted Joint Arthroplasty Research

- Review of robotic hip and knee arthroplasty literature
 - 91% of studies had an author financial COI
 - Conflicted studies more likely to report a favorable robotic outcome
 - Studies favoring robotic outcomes had a higher number of conflicted authors and a higher mean industry payment per author