

Evaluation of the Patient Specific Functional Scale in Hand Fractures

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Purpose: Self-report questionnaires such as the DASH use standard items to assess disability. The Patient Specific Functional Scale (PSFS) allows each patient to select relevant items. This study evaluated the PSFS in patients with hand fractures.

Methods:

Retrospective chart review: REB approved PSFS completed at hand therapy visits

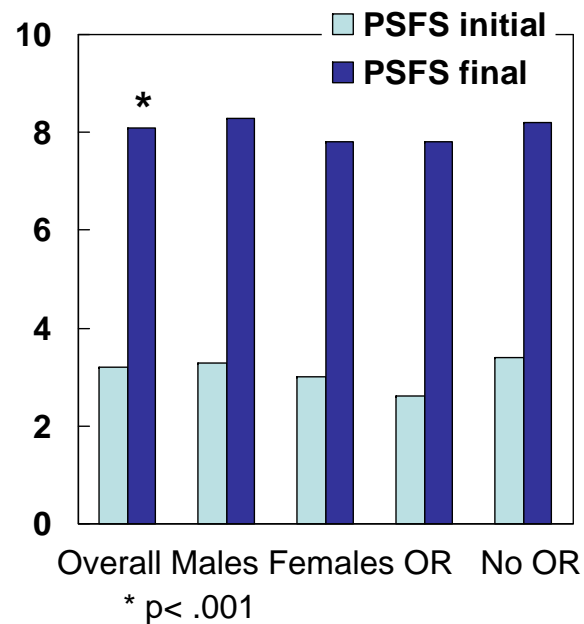
3 items: difficult or unable to perform

Degree of difficulty ranked (0 to 10)

PSFS score = mean of 3 items

Included: Adults with hand fractures, completed hand therapy in 2012 & PSFS (baseline & discharge)

Statistical analyses: evaluate the relationships between PSFS and independent variables



Results: n = 63

37 males, 26 females

21 required surgery

Mean duration hand therapy
= 2.2 ± 1.4 months

No statistical difference in initial or final PSFS scores between:

men vs women (p > 0.3)

patients who had surgery vs. no surgery (p > 0.2)

Conclusions:

PSFS indicated significant functional improvement in patients with hand fractures. The PSFS provides a valuable outcome perspective and may be used in conjunction with disease specific questionnaires for assessment of the upper extremity.