

Kayani B, Konan S, Tahmassebi J, Pietrzak JRT, Haddad FS. Robotic-arm assisted total knee arthroplasty is associated with improved early functional recovery and reduced time to hospital discharge compared with conventional jig-based total knee arthroplasty: a prospective cohort study. *Bone Joint J* 2018;100-B:930-937.

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Sir,

I read this paper with interest but the lack of blinding in this study is a serious weakness.¹ Patient expectations of a new enhanced technology could colour both their responses and the expectations of the observers.

A small sham incision for the tibial pin could have been added to the study allowing patients and observers to be truly blinded to the technique used.

I hope a similar study with prospective blinding will be carried out to strengthen the value of these findings.

It is notable that many centres that use periarticular injections as part of their enhanced recovery programme are routinely discharging their patients home in under 36 hours even after general anaesthesia.

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1. **Kayani B, Konan S, Tahmassebi J, Pietrzak JRT, Haddad FS.** Robotic-arm assisted total knee arthroplasty is associated with improved early functional recovery and reduced time to hospital discharge compared with conventional jig-based total knee arthroplasty: a prospective cohort study. *Bone Joint J* 2018;100-B:930-937.