

Preop lab values may ID risk of postarthroplasty joint infection in morbid obesity

July 25 2024, by Lori Solomon



Certain preoperative laboratory values may predict risk of periprosthetic joint infection (PJI) among individuals with morbid obesity undergoing

arthroplasty, according to a study [published](#) in the July 17 issue of the *Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery*.

Sagar Telang, from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, and colleagues sought to identify preoperative laboratory values that may serve as predictors of PJI in patients with [morbid obesity](#) undergoing [total hip arthroplasty](#) or total knee arthroplasty (TKA). Analysis included 6,780 patients (TKA: 76.7%) of whom 47 (0.69%) developed PJI within 90 days after surgery.

The researchers found that the rate of PJI was 1.69% for patients with a hemoglobin level of 182.3, and 1.05% for those with a systemic inflammation index (SII) of >776.2. In adjusted analysis, there were significant associations between PJI and an abnormal preoperative NLR (adjusted odds ratio [aOR], 2.38), PLR (aOR, 4.86), SII (aOR, 2.44), platelet count (aOR, 3.50), and [hemoglobin level](#) (aOR, 2.62).

"These findings may help surgeons risk-stratify this high-risk patient population," the authors write.

More information: Sagar Telang et al, Preoperative Laboratory Values Predicting Periprosthetic Joint Infection in Morbidly Obese Patients Undergoing Total Hip or Knee Arthroplasty, *Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery* (2024). [DOI: 10.2106/JBJS.23.01360](https://doi.org/10.2106/JBJS.23.01360)

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