

Correlation Between Oxford Elbow Score and Single Assessment Numeric Evaluation: Is One Simple Question Enough?

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Purpose: The aim of this study is to evaluate the correlation between the Oxford Elbow Score (OES) and Single Assessment Numeric Evaluation (SANE). To date, there has been no study investigating a correlation between this patient-reported outcome measure (PROM) and SANE.

Methods: Between December 2018 and February 2019, all patients who underwent consultation for elbow pathology and completed the OES and SANE were retrospectively analyzed. Pearson correlation coefficient between the OES and SANE was calculated. Variables, including age, gender, diagnosis, chief complaint for consultation, and pain level on the Visual Analog Scale (VAS) were also collected, and a mixed effects linear regression model was used to identify predictors for higher correlation.

Results: 107 consultations of 86 patients were analyzed. The mean SANE and OES were 62.13% and 60.36%, respectively. Both scores correlated highly ($r = 0.903$). Across the OES domains, the strongest correlation was found between SANE and the OES psychosocial domain ($r = 0.885$). High correlation was also found between SANE and the OES function ($r = 0.847$) and OES pain ($r = 0.804$) domains. All values were statistically significant ($P < 0.001$). A moderate inverse correlation was found between SANE and VAS ($r = -0.631$). Aside from SANE, the VAS was identified as a significant predictor of the OES.

Conclusion: SANE correlates highly with the OES. It is an easy tool for assessing the condition of the elbow joint, can be obtained without any license or payment restrictions, and should be considered as a worthwhile adjunct to currently used scores.