

Swefoot – the Swedish national quality register for foot and ankle surgery

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Background

Foot and ankle disorders are common, but knowledge of this group of patients, use of surgical methods and outcome after surgery is deficient. No previous registers have prospectively collected data and patient-reported outcome measures (PROMs) on different types of foot and ankle disorders. The national quality register for foot and ankle surgery Swefoot was recently created to improve this knowledge. We aim to describe the development of the register, the implementation and its current use.

Description

The Swefoot was developed during the years 2012–2016. Data collection started in 2014. The register currently collects data on 16 different diagnoses. Annually 15 000 performed surgeries related to the foot and ankle could be relevant to include in the register. Data entry is web-based, and the registration is performed by both the surgeon and the patient. The surgeon enters diagnose-related data and data regarding the performed surgical methods. The patient fills out patient reported outcome measures and some additional questions. The register is technically fully developed and is used in most Swedish orthopedic units performing foot and ankle surgery. From January 2014 to December 2020 approximately 20 000 surgical procedures have been entered. The degree of coverage and completeness is still relatively low.

Conclusions

The Swefoot is a unique population-based register that collects data regarding foot and ankle surgical procedures including patient-reported outcome measures. It is by now possible to present demographic, surgical and outcome parameters based on data from the Swefoot.