

Years Lived with Disability of Osteoarthritis in Monastir-Tunisia, 2002–2013

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Please cite this article as: Hajjaj M. et al. Years Lived with Disability of Osteoarthritis in Monastir-Tunisia, 2002–2013. Middle East Journal of Age and Ageing. 15(3):40. DOI: 10.5742MEJAA.2018.93542

ABSTRACT

Background: Osteoarthritis is a chronic disease which affects the quality of life and requires hospitalization in severe cases. However, the burden of this disease is not well known in Tunisia. We aimed to determine the years lived with disability of hospitalized cases of osteoarthritis in the region of Monastir over 12 years.

Methods: We have included all hospitalizations for osteoarthritis (using ICD-10) at the university hospital of Monastir between 2002 and 2013. Enrolled patients were residents of Monastir. Data were collected from the regional register of hospital morbidity and mortality implemented at the Department of Preventive Medicine and Epidemiology. The burden is measured in Disability Adjusted Life Years (DALYs) which is the sum of YLDs (years lived with disability) and YLLs (years of life lost).

Results: A total of 275 hospitalizations for osteoarthritis were notified from 2002 to 2013. Three quarters were under 75 years old with female predominance. The median length of stay was 9 days. The estimation of YLDs was 6.80/100000 inhabitants. YLDs was 4.96/100000 inhabitants for men against 8.45/100000 inhabitants in women. No lethality was noted.

Conclusion: The burden of osteoarthritis is important to know among hospitalized patients, but the methodological issues within this study make it highly likely that the real burden of osteoarthritis has been underestimated since we included only hospitalized cases.