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Letter to editor

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Editor;

The article by Duensing I, Anderson M, Meeks H, et al: Patients with Type-1 Diabetes Are at Greater Risk of Periprosthetic Joint Infection JBJS Vol. 101-A No. 20, October 16, 2019 is valuable in calling attention to the increased risk of periprosthetic infection in Type-1 diabetic patients. Was there a correlation of infection risk with the patient's real-time A1c? Elevated preoperative A1c is associated with increased wound complications in both non-cardiac and cardiac surgeries and carpal tunnel release (1,2). While documenting a history of diabetic complications that correlates with a higher odds ratio of infection in the study cohort, that information may not make available to the physician an assessment of an individual's risk. Conflating those with high and low A1c may deprive the study of specificity. A1c levels provide a time-in-range for serum glucose and could offer increased accuracy of risk stratification for surgical site infection (3).

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References

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2. Cunningham D, Baumgartner R, Federer A, et al: Elevated Preoperative Hemoglobin A1c associated with Increased Wound Complications in Diabetic Patients Undergoing Primary Open Carpal Tunnel Release. *Plast. Reconstr. Surg.* Oct;144:632e-638e, 2019.
3. Vigersky R, McMahon C: The Relationship of Hemoglobin A1c to Time-in-Range in Patients with Diabetes. *Diabetes Technol Ther* Feb;21(2):81-85, 2019

Conflict of Interest: None Declared