



[Cross-cultural differences in the reporting of global functional capacity: an example in cataract patients.](https://arctichealth.org/en/permalink/ahliterature50985)

<https://arctichealth.org/en/permalink/ahliterature50985>

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Denmark  
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Humans  
Logistic Models  
Male  
Manitoba  
Multivariate Analysis  
Outcome Assessment (Health Care) - methods - standards  
Questionnaires - standards  
Reproducibility of Results  
Research Support, Non-U.S. Gov't  
Sensitivity and specificity  
Spain  
United States  
Visual acuity

Abstract: OBJECTIVES: Patient-based health status measures have an important role to play in the assessment of health care outcomes. Among these measures, global assessments increasingly have been used, although the understanding of the performance of these indicators and the determinants of patients responses is underdeveloped. In this study, the performance of a single-item global indicator of visual function in cataract patients of four international settings was compared. METHODS: Visual acuity and ocular comorbidity was assessed by patients' ophthalmologist using Snellen-type charts in patients referred for a first cataract surgery in the United States, Manitoba (Canada), Denmark, and Barcelona (Spain). Patients also were interviewed by telephone and asked to report overall trouble with vision on a single-item indicator ("great deal," "moderate," "a little," "none") and to complete the Visual Functioning Index (VF-14), a scale of visual function ranging from 0 (worst function) to 100 (best level of function), along with other questions including the degree the patient was bothered by symptoms as measured by the Cataract Symptom Score (CSS). A total of 1,407 patients completed the clinical examination and the preoperative interview. RESULTS: Distribution of overall trouble with vision varied across the sites, with the proportion of patients reporting a great deal of trouble ranging from 21.7% to 37.9%. In all sites, patients reporting more trouble with vision tended to show a poorer age-adjusted and sex-adjusted visual acuity. The proportion of patients reporting great deal of trouble with vision was higher in the groups with worse visual acuity (P

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## International variation in anesthesia care during cataract surgery: results from the International Cataract Surgery Outcomes Study.

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Monitoring, Intraoperative - methods - standards  
Physician's Practice Patterns  
Questionnaires  
Random Allocation  
Retrospective Studies  
Spain  
Treatment Outcome  
United States

Abstract: To describe international variation in anesthesia care and monitoring during cataract surgery and to discuss its implications for cost and safety.

A standardized questionnaire was sent to random samples of ophthalmologists in the United States, Canada, and Barcelona, Spain, and to all ophthalmologists in Denmark. The survey was conducted in 1993 and 1994. Certified ophthalmologists who had performed 1 or more cataract extractions in the previous year were eligible for enrollment.

The response rates were 62% in the United States (n=148), 67% in Canada (n=276), 70% in Barcelona (n=89), and 80% in Denmark (n=82). The anesthetic technique for cataract surgery varied significantly between sites (P

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## International variation in ophthalmologic management of patients with cataracts. Results from the International Cataract Surgery Outcomes Study.

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Cataract Extraction - methods - statistics & numerical data  
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Middle Aged  
Ophthalmology - statistics & numerical data - trends  
Physician's Practice Patterns - statistics & numerical data - trends  
Questionnaires  
Random Allocation  
Research Support, Non-U.S. Gov't  
Research Support, U.S. Gov't, P.H.S.  
Spain  
Treatment Outcome  
United States  
World Health

Abstract: OBJECTIVES: To describe international variation in the management of patients with cataracts in 4 health care systems and to discuss the potential implications for cost and utilization of services. DESIGN: To characterize current clinical practice on patients with no coexisting medical or ocular conditions, a standardized questionnaire was sent to random samples of ophthalmologists in the United States (response rate, 82.5%), Canada (66.9%), and Barcelona, Spain (70.4%), and to all ophthalmologists in Denmark (80.1%). From the United States, 526 ophthalmologists who performed cataract surgery participated in the study; there were 276 from Canada, 89 from Barcelona, and 82 from Denmark. RESULTS: Although in all 4 sites most surgeons reported that they performed A-scanning, fundus examination, and refraction routinely before surgery, significant crossnational variation was observed in preoperative ophthalmic and medical testing. While preoperative medical tests were virtually unused in Denmark, they were widely used in the other sites. A significantly higher proportion of the surgeons in the United States and Barcelona reported that they performed less than 100 extractions per year compared with surgeons in Canada and Denmark (P

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## Patients' acceptance of waiting for cataract surgery: what makes a wait too long?

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Predictive value of tests  
Prospective Studies  
Questionnaires  
Research Support, Non-U.S. Gov't  
Research Support, U.S. Gov't, P.H.S.  
Spain  
Time Factors  
Visual acuity  
Waiting Lists

Abstract: The patient's perspective about waiting for elective surgery is an important consideration in the management of waiting lists, yet it has received little attention to date. This study was undertaken to assess the acceptability of personal waiting times from the perspective of patients, and to examine waiting time and patient characteristics associated with the perception that a wait for cataract surgery is too long. The international prospective study was conducted in three sites with explicit waiting systems: Manitoba, Canada; Denmark; and Barcelona, Spain. Patients over the age of 50 years were recruited consecutively from ophthalmologists' practices at the time of their enlistment for first-eye cataract surgery. Anticipated waiting time, opinions about personal waiting time, and patients' visual and health characteristics were identified by means of telephone interviews. The 550 patients interviewed at the time of enlistment for surgery anticipated waits varying from

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## [Variation in indications for cataract surgery in the United States, Denmark, Canada, and Spain: results from the International Cataract Surgery Outcomes Study.](#)

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Cataract - physiopathology  
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Male  
Middle Aged  
Patient Selection  
Preoperative Care  
Prospective Studies  
Self Disclosure  
Spain  
Treatment Outcome  
United States  
Vision Disorders - physiopathology  
Visual Acuity - physiology  
Waiting Lists

Abstract: BACKGROUND/AIMS: International comparisons of clinical practice may help in assessing the magnitude and possible causes of variation in cross national healthcare utilisation. With this aim, the indications for cataract surgery in the United States, Denmark, the province of Manitoba (Canada), and the city of Barcelona (Spain) were compared. METHODS: In a prospective multicentre study, patients scheduled for first eye cataract surgery and aged 50 years or older were enrolled consecutively. From the United States 766 patients were enrolled; from Denmark 291; from Manitoba 152; and from Barcelona 200. Indication for surgery was measured as preoperative visual status of patients enlisted for cataract surgery. Main variables were preoperative visual acuity in operative eye, the VF-14 score (an index of functional impairment in patients with cataract) and ocular comorbidity. RESULTS: Mean visual acuity were 0.23 (USA), 0.17 (Denmark), 0.15 (Manitoba), and 0.07 (Barcelona) (p 0.05). Mean VF-14 scores were 76 (USA), 76 (Denmark), 71 (Manitoba), and 64 (Barcelona) (p

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