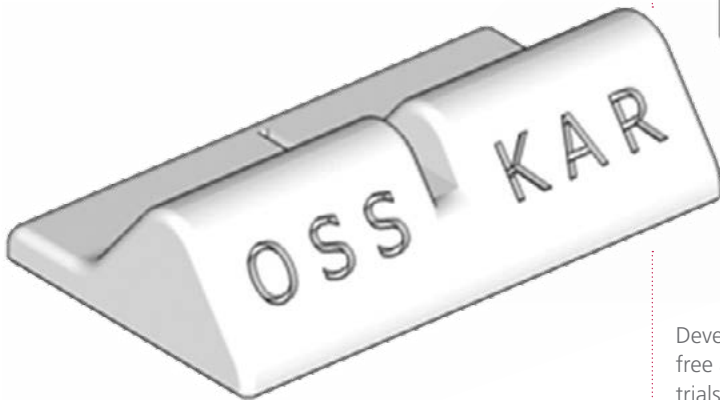


OSSKAR – a Positioning Device for Hands-Free Stress Imaging of the Knee

Many patients with knee problems don't receive the appropriate treatment because stress-positioning radiography (which provides crucial clinical information) is expensive and uncomfortable for the patient. OSSKAR is a simple hands-free device that facilitates knee stress radiography, ensuring that patients receive the most appropriate treatment.

Placing a patient's knee in a 'stress' position while taking an x-ray enables the underlying cartilage to be fully visualised, a prerequisite for determining whether total or partial knee replacement is required. Such stress knee radiographs are therefore crucial for clinical decision making.



Developed by Oxford University researchers, OSSKAR is hands-free and CE marked, and it is currently undergoing clinical trials.

Key benefits

- Simple, lightweight and inexpensive to manufacture
- CE-marked
- Allows both legs to undergo stress simultaneously
- Causes minimal patient discomfort
- Removes need for costly and invasive MRI or arthroscopy
- Removes need for manual positioning and therefore clinician radiation exposure
- Potential for horizontal beam lateral x-ray and ligament insufficiency assessment

Stress positioning is currently carried out using complex medical devices that are heavy, expensive and unpleasant for the patient. Alternatively, the lower limbs can be manually held in place: this is not only expensive, it also exposes the clinician to x-ray radiation.

Due to these problems, stress-positioning radiography is often not carried out and patients are inappropriately referred for total knee replacement.

Researchers from the University of Oxford have developed OSSKAR, a simple hands-free device that could greatly facilitate knee stress radiography and consequently ensure all patients receive the most appropriate and cost-effective knee replacement surgery.

OSSKAR (the Oxford Stress System for Knee Arthroplasty Radiographs) provides a simple and light-weight medical device for comfortably placing patients in standardised stress positions for x-ray radiography, while removing the need for a clinician.



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