

EVALUATION OF QUESTIONNAIRES FOR GASTROESOPHAGEAL REFLUX DISEASE AFTER FLOPPY NISSEN FUNDOPLICATION

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Objectives

The GERD-HRQL (Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease-Health Related Quality of Life) and the GERD score questionnaires are widely used for reflux assessment. They both have pros and cons but they have not been evaluated at the same patient population. Our aim was to estimate which questionnaire is more accurate for GERD evaluation seven years after Nissen fundoplication.

Figure. Floppy Nissen fundoplication

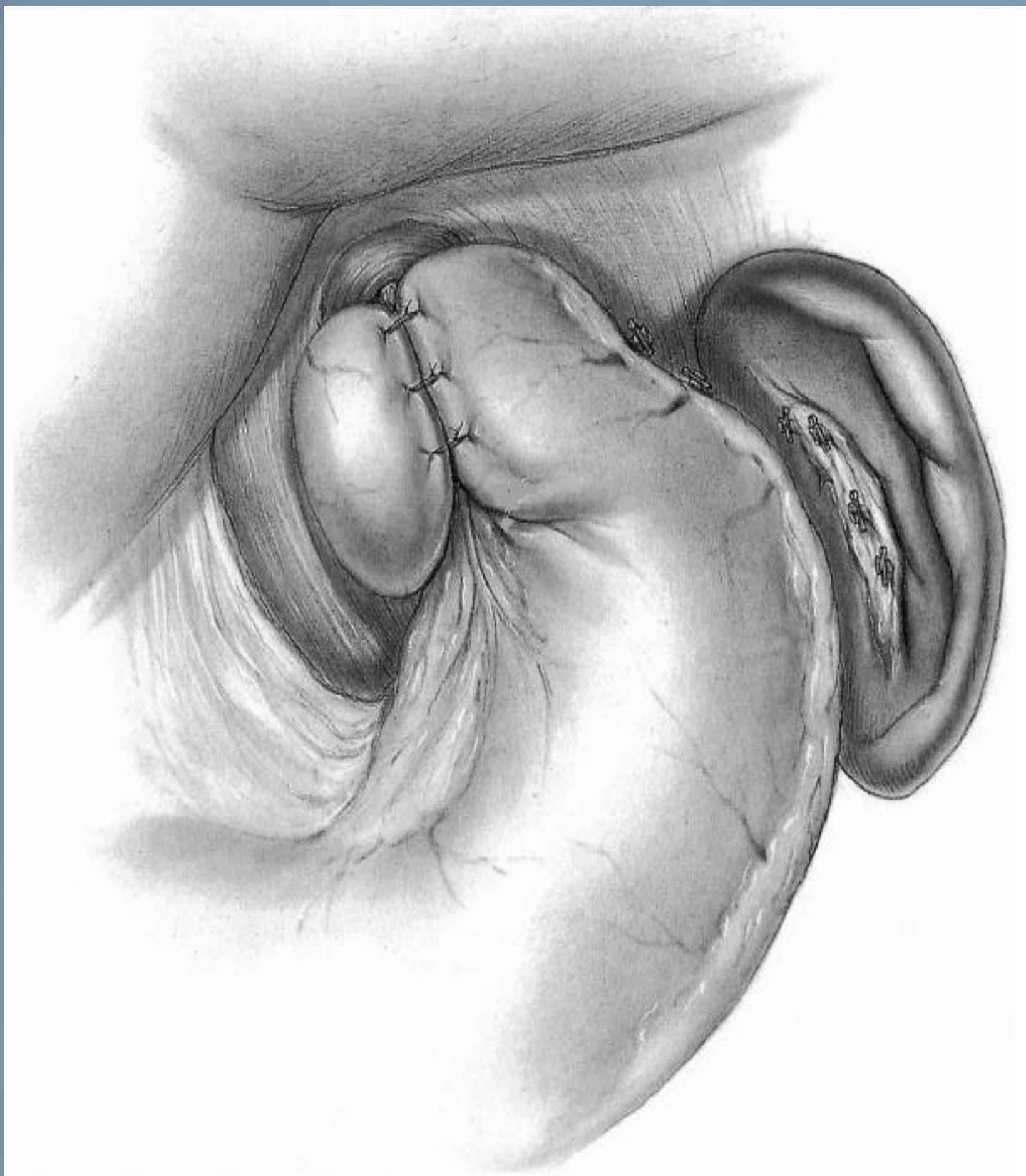


Table. Postoperative characteristics of patients after Nissen fundoplication

Sample	33 male - 38 female
Mean age	54 ± 10.9 years
Mean Follow –up Time	35.6 ± 3.4 months
Visick score <3	83.9% of patients
Overall patient satisfaction	88.7%
Mean GERD-HRQL score	5.63 (range 0-32)
Mean GERD score	6.60 (range 0-39)
Functional EORTC- QLQ C30	92.3 (range 42-100)
Symptom scale EORTC- QLQ C30	11.8 (range 0-67)
Global EORTC- QLQ C30	80.2 (range 17-100)

Methods

The GERD-HRQL and the GERD score questionnaires were applied to all patients having undergone floppy Nissen fundoplication from January 2006 till December 2012. The final score was then compared to the EORTC-C30 questionnaire regarding overall quality of life of the same patients. Statistical analysis was performed using the SPSS 19.0 Software.

Results

In total, 62 out of 71 patients who have undergone Nissen fundoplication completed follow up assessment (87%) and laparoscopic procedure had been performed to 91.9% of them. Mean age at the time of the operation was 54 years and median follow up time was 35.6 months, ranging between 6 and 89 months. Overall patient satisfaction was 88.7% and Visick score was < 3 in 83.9% of the patients. Mean GERD-HRQL score was 5.6 and mean GERD score was 6.6. Both scores were found to strongly correlate with the EORTC-C30 questionnaire ($p<0.01$). Specifically, there was a negative correlation with the functional scale and the global health status and a positive correlation with the symptoms scale.

Conclusion

Our results demonstrate that both questionnaires can be equally applied postoperatively since they accurately reflect the overall quality of life of patients after Nissen fundoplication.