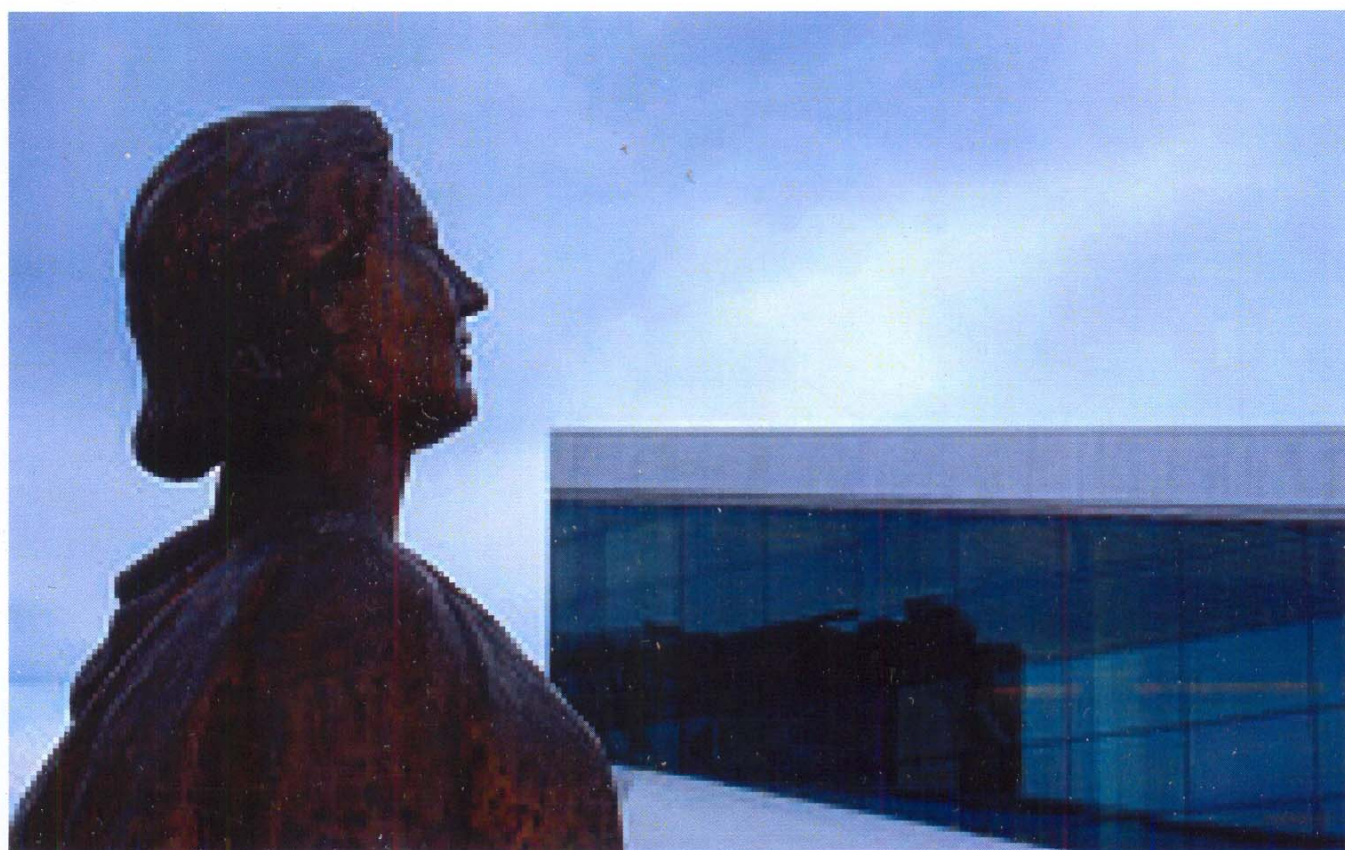


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ABSTRACTS

L30 Late events in osteosarcoma survivors: What can we learn from clinical trials in amputation versus limb salvage?

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Introduction: Limb salvage surgery using endoprosthesis, allografts or reconstructions is applied in about 85% of patients affected by osteosarcoma of the middle and/or distal femur. For the long term survivors one drawback in limb-salvage surgery is that endoprostheses have a limited duration and long-term prosthetic failure leading to reoperation remains a serious problem. The purpose of this work is to evaluate the long term functional and quality of life results of limb salvage procedure compared with amputation in osteosarcoma survivors.

Patients and methods: 112 osteosarcoma of the limb survivors, aged 16 to 52 years of age, treated between 1972 and 2005, <20 of age at diagnosis were enrolled to this study.

Results: Among those who replied to the questionnaire, no significant differences existed in functional or psychological outcomes between survivors with limb salvage and those with amputation.

Conclusion: In limb-saved long term osteosarcoma survivors, after endoprostheses failure and repeated surgical procedures, the decision to undergo additional limb salvage procedures is difficult and multifaceted. Amputee survivors had a similar psychological and quality of life outcome compared to limb salvage survivors.