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Purpose/Hypothesis: The changing health care environment and push for reduced hospital length of stay has placed great emphasis on acute care physical therapy evaluations to determine discharge destination (home versus facility). The Boston University Activity Measure for Post-Acute Care “6 Clicks” Inpatient Short Forms (6 Clicks) are currently the only comprehensive functional outcome measure that is not condition specific and can provide information to assist therapists with decision making in a quick and easy to interpret manner. Research exists related to the reliability and validity of this tool, but further information is needed to demonstrate opportunities for its utility in the acute care setting. The purpose of this study is to determine the predictive value of objective data, specifically 6 Clicks scores, obtained during the acute care course of treatment following elective orthopedic surgery.

Number of Subjects: 323

Materials/Methods: The researchers reviewed 323 charts of persons who underwent elective total knee replacement and total hip replacement at Regional Hospital of Scranton, Scranton, Pennsylvania, USA from June 2013 through February 2015. Data collected from each chart included, age, gender, insurance, type of surgery, prior level of function, support at home, home set-up, initial and discharge 6 Clicks scores for physical and occupational therapy (PT and OT), and discharge destination. The data was entered into Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) and analyzed using Pearson Correlation Coefficients, Analysis of Covariance using age as the covariate, and Crosstabs accompanied by Chi Square and Contingency Coefficients.

Results: Analyses among key variables revealed very robust correlations between discharge PT and OT 6 Clicks scores and discharge destination and low to moderate correlations between initial PT and OT 6 clicks, where PT was somewhat more predictive of discharge destination. Age was moderately correlated with discharge destination and, therefore used as a covariate in other analyses. Crosstabs analysis revealed statistically significant correlations between discharge destination and insurance, support at home, and assistive device use prior to surgery. Type of surgery, home set up, and gender were not statistically significant. The series of one-way ANOVAs with age as a covariate revealed statistically significant relations between PT
and OT initial and discharge 6 Clicks scores and discharge destination.

**Conclusions:** These findings support the hypothesis that the 6 Clicks score may be predictive of discharge destination for persons undergoing elective lower extremity joint replacement.

**Clinical Relevance:** Many variables influence whether or not a patient may be discharged to home following elective joint replacement, with age, insurance, support, and use of assistive device representing the primary factors. Identifying the most influential variables combined with the scores of initial and discharge 6 Clicks scores may assist PT and OT clinicians in making safe and efficient discharge recommendations.