

## **Title Page**

**Title: Clinical phenotypes based on clinical prognostic factors in patients with secondary hip osteoarthritis: preliminary findings from prospective cohort study**

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## **ABSTRACT**

### **Objectives**

Recently, several clinical prognostic factors for hip osteoarthritis (OA) progression such as spinal malalignment, reduced spinal mobility, and excessive daily cumulative hip loading have been identified. This study aimed to identify clinical phenotypes based on clinical prognostic factors in patients with secondary hip OA using data from prospective cohort studies and to define the clinical features of each phenotype.

### **Methods**

Fifty patients participated. Two-step cluster analysis was performed to identify the phenotypes using the following potential prognostic factors for hip OA progression: spinal inclination in standing, thoracolumbar spine mobility, daily cumulative hip moment, and minimum joint space width (JSW) at baseline. Comprehensive basic and clinical features (age, body mass index, hip pain, Harris hip score, JSW, radiographic hip morphology, hip impairments, spinal alignment and mobility, and gait-related variables) and ratio of progressors in 12 months were compared among the phenotypes using bootstrap method (unadjusted and adjusted for age).

### **Results**

Three phenotypes were identified and each phenotype was characterized as follows ( $P < 0.05$ ): phenotype 1 (30%), relatively young age and higher daily cumulative hip loading; phenotype 2 (42.0%), relatively older age, reduced JSW, and less spinal mobility; and phenotype 3 (28.0%), changed thoracic spine alignment and less spinal (especially in the thoracic spine) mobility. The ratio of progressors among the phenotypes was not statistically significantly different. These characteristics remained after adjustment for age.

### **Conclusion**

Three phenotypes with similar progression risk were identified. This finding will help in designing treatment tailored to each phenotype for hip OA progression prevention.

**Keywords:** Hip osteoarthritis, Progression, Phenotype, Gait, Spine

## **Key-points**

- Three phenotypes with similar progression risk were identified based on clinical prognostic factors.
- Phenotype 1 was characterized by young age and higher daily cumulative hip loading.
- Phenotype 2 was relatively old age and had reduced JSW and less spinal mobility.
- Phenotype 3 had changed thoracic spine alignment and less thoracic spine mobility.

## 1 **Introduction**

2

3 As osteoarthritis (OA) is a heterogeneous disease characterized by multiple-tissue failure and  
4 various clinical features [1], subgrouping of patients with OA will improve the understanding of the  
5 disease, and treatment tailored to phenotypes could enhance therapeutic efficacy [2]. In patients with  
6 knee OA, various phenotype classifications from different perspectives (e.g., clinical, laboratory,  
7 imaging, and etiologic phenotypes) have been proposed [3], whereas information on the classification  
8 of patients with hip OA is limited.

9 Historically, hip OA has been classified as primary and secondary hip OA. However, as many  
10 of the primary hip OA have been associated with potential morphological abnormalities, the boundary  
11 between the two classifications is becoming less clear [4]. Although a few attempts have been made to  
12 classify patients with hip OA based on a genome-wide DNA methylation profile of chondrocytes in  
13 hip cartilage [5] and shape of the proximal femur [6], the clinical characteristics of these phenotypes  
14 and the association between phenotypes and the predisposition to progression of hip OA have not been  
15 examined.

16 Hip OA is a chronic progressive disease; thus, identifying different phenotypes associated  
17 with prognostic factors is essential in the prevention of hip OA progression. Previous studies reported  
18 that some phenotypes are characterized by direction of femoral head migration or have a bone  
19 remodeling response pattern [7,8], and patients with superolateral migration and atrophic bone  
20 response have been considered more prone to hip OA progression [9]. However, phenotype  
21 classification associated with clinical and modifiable prognostic factors has not been performed in  
22 patients with hip OA, presumably because no such prognostic factors have been found. Recently, our  
23 prospective cohort studies have demonstrated that spinal malalignment during standing, reduced  
24 thoracolumbar spinal mobility, and excessive daily cumulative hip loading during walking (i.e., daily  
25 total amount of external load on the hip joint) are associated with subsequent radiographic progression  
26 of hip OA [10,11]. These clinical prognostic factors are modifiable by therapeutic exercise.

27 The identification of these multiple clinical prognostic factors subsequently raises the  
28 following question: Does a certain high-risk patient group have all of these prognostic factors or are  
29 there some phenotypes with different prognostic factors? This question could be answered by

30 exploratory subgrouping of patients based on multiple clinical prognostic factors. For the subgrouping  
31 of patients, an epidemiological method based on a priori hypothesis and a statistical (data-driven)  
32 method, such as cluster analysis, are commonly applied [3,12]. A statistical method may be better if it  
33 is unclear whether the patients could be divided into clusters or if the number of clusters is unknown  
34 [13]. Identifying phenotypes based on modifiable clinical prognostic factors and defining the clinical  
35 features of each phenotype would help clinicians tailor the treatment for the prevention hip OA  
36 progression.

37 Hence, this study aimed to identify clinical phenotypes based on clinical prognostic factors in  
38 patients with mild-to-moderate secondary hip OA using data from prospective cohort studies and to  
39 define the clinical features of each of identified phenotype. We hypothesized that no single phenotype  
40 has a combination of all clinical prognostic factors; however, there are distinct phenotypes with  
41 different clinical prognostic factors and similar progression risk. This data-driven phenotyping may  
42 contribute to greater responsiveness to disease-modifying interventions in hip OA with heterogeneous  
43 features.

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45

## 46 **Participants and Methods**

47

### 48 **Participants**

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50 From the non-surgical outpatients in the orthopaedic department of the university hospital, 50  
51 participants were recruited continuously. The inclusion criteria were as follows: patients with  
52 secondary hip OA aged  $\geq 20$  years; a diagnosis of pre-osteoarthritis (acetabular dysplasia with no other  
53 abnormal radiographic findings) or early (slight joint space narrowing [ $\geq 2$  mm] and abnormal  
54 subchondral sclerosis) or advanced-stage (marked joint space narrowing [ $< 2$  mm] with or without cysts  
55 or sclerosis) hip OA [14]; and ability to walk without any assistive device. The exclusion criteria  
56 included the following: patients with a baseline joint space width (JSW) of  $< 0.5$  mm; previous hip  
57 surgeries; and neurologic, vascular, or other conditions that affect gait or activity of daily living. Only  
58 female patients were included in this study because of the substantial gender bias (males, 7.1%), which

59 is similar to previous reports on secondary hip OA (males, 7.6–9.2%) [15,16]. Moreover, primary hip  
60 OA cases are fewer and rare in Asians [4,17]; thus, only secondary hip OA cases were included in this  
61 study. In patients with bilateral hip OA, the side with more severe joint space narrowing was included  
62 in the analysis. This study used data from the cohort in previous prospective cohort studies [10,11].  
63 Functional status of the patients was assessed using Harris hip score (HHS). The study protocol was  
64 approved by the Ethics Committee of the Kyoto University Graduate School and Faculty of Medicine.  
65 All participants provided written informed consent.

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### 67 **Joint space width and hip morphology**

68

69 Minimum JSW and hip morphology were assessed using a digital supine anteroposterior  
70 radiograph of the pelvis. Radiograph was taken in a standardized manner by skilled radiology  
71 technicians and evaluated by a single experienced examiner. The image was reviewed and measured  
72 digitally using Centricity Enterprise Web, version 3.0 (GE Health care, Buckinghamshire, England).  
73 To assess the degree of cartilage degeneration and the progression of hip OA, JSW was measured at  
74 the vertex and medial and lateral sides of the weight-bearing surface, and if there was a minimum JSW  
75 position other than the aforementioned three locations, it was also measured as the fourth measurement  
76 [10,18]. The minimum value of three or four locations was defined as the minimum JSW [10,18]. JSW  
77 was measured at baseline and 12 months thereafter, and patients with >0.5 mm reduction in minimum  
78 JSW over 12 months was classified as progressors [19,20]. The intrarater reliability (intraclass  
79 correlation [ICC] 1,1) of JSW measurement was 0.99 [10].

80 For hip morphology, Sharp angle, lateral center edge angle, acetabular head index, and  
81 acetabular roof obliquity were measured digitally with the same image and software used in JSW  
82 measurement. The ICC (1,1) for hip morphology measurements was 0.95–0.98 [10]. The examiner  
83 was blinded to the patients' name and date of radiographic imaging during JSW and hip morphology  
84 measurements.

85

### 86 **Hip impairments**

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88 Hip pain intensity was assessed as the average pain experienced during activities of daily  
89 living within the last 3 months using a 100-mm visual analogue scale. Passive range of motion (ROM)  
90 of the hip joint was measured in flexion, extension, abduction, adduction, external rotation, and internal  
91 rotation [21]. The position of the patients for each ROM test was as follows: flexion, supine with the  
92 knee flexed; extension, supine with hip joint positioned at the edge of the treatment table and the  
93 contralateral hip flexed to flatten the lumbar spine and stabilize the pelvis; abduction, supine with the  
94 contralateral hip positioned at 10° abduction; adduction, supine with contralateral hip slightly flexed;  
95 and external and internal rotations, prone with the knee flexed at 90°. The pelvis and contralateral  
96 femur were fixed with a stabilization belt during measurement. A single examiner recorded the ROM  
97 using a standard two-arm goniometer. The ICC (1,1) for the ROM tests was 0.82–0.99 [22].

98 Hip muscle strength was recorded in flexion, extension, abduction, adduction, external  
99 rotation, and internal rotation [21,23]. Maximal isometric muscle strength was measured using a  
100 handheld dynamometer ( $\mu$ -TAS F-1; Anima Co., Ltd, Tokyo, Japan) by a single examiner. Hip flexion  
101 was measured in the sitting position. Hip extension was measured in the supine position with the leg  
102 raised straight at 20°. Hip abduction was measured in the supine position, with 0° of  
103 abduction/adduction of both hips. Hip external and internal rotations were measured in the prone  
104 position with 90° of knee flexion. The pelvis and contralateral femur were fixed with a stabilization  
105 belt, and patients were instructed to hold the edge of the table to stabilize their body. After several  
106 practice trials, two maximal trials for 3 s each were recorded. The mean of the two trials was used for  
107 analysis. The ICC (1,1) for the muscle strength tests was 0.85–0.98 [22].

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### 109 **Spinal alignment and mobility**

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111 Spinal alignment and mobility were measured by Spinal Mouse (Idiag AG, Switzerland),  
112 which is a reliable and valid device for the measurement of spinal alignment and ROM [24–26]. Spinal  
113 alignment in the standing position was assessed for the following: thoracic kyphosis (from T1/2 to  
114 T11/12), lumbar lordosis (from T12/L1 to L5/S1), sacral inclination (the angle between the straight  
115 line from S1 to S3 and a vertical line), and spinal inclination (the angle between the straight line from  
116 T1 to S1 and a vertical line) angles. The mean value of three measurements was used for analysis. The

117 ICC (1,1) for the spinal alignment measurements was 0.86–0.99 [11].

118 Spinal mobility of the thoracic spine, lumbar spine, and thoracolumbar spine was measured  
119 using Spinal Mouse. Measurements were performed in the sitting position to minimize the appearance  
120 of hip symptoms, and the patient was instructed to bend their spine forward and backward as much as  
121 possible. The mean value of three measurements was used for analysis. The ICC (1,1) for the spinal  
122 mobility measurements was 0.95 [11].

123

#### 124 **Gait-related variables**

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126 Gait analysis was performed using an 8-camera Vicon motion system (Vicon Nexus; Vicon  
127 Motion Systems Ltd., Oxford, England) on a 7-m walkway embedded with four force plates (Kistler  
128 Japan Co., Ltd., Tokyo, Japan). Raw marker trajectories (200 Hz sampling) were filtered with a fourth-  
129 order Butterworth low-pass filter with a 6-Hz cutoff, and ground reaction force (1000 Hz sampling)  
130 was filtered with a low-pass filter (20 Hz). Reflective markers were placed over the close-fitting shorts  
131 and T-shirt by a single experienced examiner. The marker positions were as follows: bilaterally on the  
132 anterior superior iliac spine, posterior superior iliac spine, superior aspect of the greater trochanter,  
133 lateral femoral condyle, medial femoral condyle, lateral malleolus, medial malleolus, heel, fifth  
134 metatarsal head, and first metatarsal head [22]. After several practice trials, at least three trials at a self-  
135 selected speed without any assistive devices were recorded.

136 Three-dimensional external hip joint moments were calculated using BodyBuilder software  
137 (Vicon Motion Systems Ltd., Oxford, England). Joint moment was computed by adding the coordinate  
138 data to the ground reaction force data, in which the position of the center of mass, weight portion, and  
139 moment of inertia of each segment were used as parameters. External hip joint moment impulse in  
140 three planes was calculated for the stance phase. Furthermore, daily cumulative hip moments were  
141 calculated by multiplying the hip joint moment impulse in each of the three planes and the mean  
142 number of steps per day for affected limb. The number of steps for seven consecutive days was  
143 recorded by a pedometer (EX-500, Yamasa Tokei Co., Ltd., Tokyo, Japan) within a month from the  
144 day of gait analysis. The patient was instructed to keep the pedometer in their pocket from awakening  
145 to bedtime. High accuracy of this method has been verified previously [10].



146

## 147 **Statistical analysis**

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149 SPSS version 24 (IBM Japan Ltd., Tokyo, Japan) was used for the statistical analysis.

150 Statistical significance was defined as  $P < 0.05$ .

151 To classify the patients, a two-step cluster analysis was performed. This analysis is better than  
152 the widely used hierarchical or k-means clustering methods especially when all clustering variables  
153 are continuous [27,28]. Because this study is exploratory in nature and the number of clusters is  
154 unknown, a two-step cluster analysis, which could automatically determine the number of clusters  
155 based on a predefined criterion, is suitable for this study. The following suggested clinical prognostic  
156 factors for hip OA were included as clustering variables: spinal inclination in standing, thoracolumbar  
157 spine mobility, and daily cumulative hip moment (hip abduction/adduction) [10,11]. Additionally,  
158 minimum JSW at baseline was included in the clustering variables because it has been considered a  
159 factor involved in hip OA progression [9,29]. As the bivariate correlation between the clustering  
160 variables were at most 0.43, collinearity was not confirmed [13]. Before the cluster analysis, all  
161 clustering variables were standardized using z-scores. In the first step of the two-step cluster analysis,  
162 pre-clusters were computed, which are dense regions in the analyzed attribute space. In the second step,  
163 hierarchical clustering technique was performed to determine the optimal number of clusters according  
164 to the distance measurement. Log-likelihood criterion was used for distance measurement. Akaike's  
165 information criterion was also used to identify the optimal number of clusters. Furthermore, the overall  
166 goodness-of-fit of clusters was evaluated by Silhouette measure. Silhouette measure  $< 0.20$  indicates a  
167 poor solution quality; a measure between 0.20 and 0.50, a fair solution; and a measure  $> 0.50$ , a good  
168 solution [13]. As the clustering result may depend on the input order of cases [27], the cluster analysis  
169 was performed again after randomly changing the order of cases to check the stability of the clustering  
170 [13].

171 After determining the number of clusters, basic and radiographic characteristics, hip  
172 impairments, spinal alignment and mobility, and gait-related variables, including clustering variables,  
173 were compared between clusters. Comparison of these variables was performed by Holm-corrected  
174 unpaired *t*-test. Unpaired *t*-test was used in this study because of its major advantages over non-

175 parametric tests, especially for a small sample [30]. To compare the basic and clinical characteristics  
176 between clusters with adjustment for age, Holm-corrected unpaired *t*-test adjusted for age using a  
177 general linear model was also performed. Furthermore, a generalized linear model was used to examine  
178 the association between cluster differences and ratio of progressors (radiographic progression [yes/no]  
179 as dependent variable and cluster number as independent variables) with and without adjustment for  
180 age.

181 Furthermore, as each cluster was expected to contain small samples, the bootstrap method,  
182 which is a reliable resampling method that does not require normality assumption [31], was employed  
183 for the comparison of clinical characteristics and ratio of progressors between clusters. The bootstrap  
184 method was conducted with 1000 replicates.

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186

## 187 **Results**

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189 Fifty patients (age,  $47.4 \pm 10.7$  years; body mass index,  $22.4 \pm 4.1$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>) participated in this  
190 study. On average, the patients had moderate hip pain (visual analogue scale,  $42.0 \pm 27.5$  mm) and  
191 showed a relatively good HHS ( $86.9 \pm 9.9$  points).

192

### 193 **Determination of phenotypes**

194

195 The two-step cluster algorithm identified three phenotypes based on predefined criteria:  
196 phenotype 1 (n = 15, 30.0%), phenotype 2 (n = 21, 42.0%), and phenotype 3 (n = 14, 28.0%). Silhouette  
197 measure was 0.5, which represents a cluster quality between fair and good, and was considered  
198 acceptable clustering [13]. No change in the number of clusters and the number of patients included in  
199 each cluster was observed even if the order of cases was changed.

200

### 201 **Comparison of clinical characteristics and hip OA progression between phenotypes**

202

203 The differences in demographic, clinical, and radiographic characteristics between the three

204 phenotypes based on bootstrap unpaired t-test with Holm correction are shown in Table 1. Age was  
205 statistically significantly different among the three phenotypes. Minimum JSW at baseline in  
206 phenotype 2 was smaller than that in phenotypes 1 and 3. Even after adjustment for age, the statistically  
207 significant differences remained. HHS was higher in phenotype 1 than in phenotype 2; however, the  
208 difference did not remain after adjustment for age.

209 Hip impairments in each phenotype are shown in Table 2. Hip abduction and internal rotation  
210 ROM were smaller in phenotype 2 than in phenotypes 1 and 3, and hip adduction ROM was smaller  
211 in phenotype 2 than in phenotype 1. However, these differences in hip ROM between phenotypes did  
212 not remain after adjustment for age.

213 Spinal alignment and mobility of the three phenotypes are summarized in Table 3. For spinal  
214 alignment, thoracic kyphosis was smaller in phenotypes 2 and 3 than in phenotype 1, and the difference  
215 between phenotypes 1 and 3 remained after adjustment for age. For thoracic spine mobility, the lowest  
216 was observed in phenotype 3, followed by phenotypes 2 and 1. Even after adjustment for age,  
217 phenotypes 2 and 3 had lower thoracic spine mobility than phenotype 1. Thoracolumbar spine mobility  
218 was lower in phenotypes 2 and 3 than in phenotype 1, which remained even after adjustment for age.

219 Gait-related variables in the three phenotypes are shown in Table 4. Gait speed was slower in  
220 phenotype 3 than in phenotype 1; however, the difference was not observed after adjustment for age.  
221 Physical activity (steps/day) was higher in phenotype 1 than in phenotypes 2 and 3 after adjustment of  
222 age. Excursion in hip abduction/adduction angle during gait was greater in phenotype 1 than in  
223 phenotype 2 only when not adjusted for age. Although the hip moment impulse was not statistically  
224 significantly different between phenotypes, the daily cumulative hip moment in hip  
225 abduction/adduction was higher in phenotype 1 than in phenotype 3 without adjustment for age and  
226 was higher in phenotype 1 than in phenotypes 2 and 3 after adjustment for age.

227 The number of progressors was 5 (33.3%) in phenotype 1, 11 (52.4%) in phenotype 2, and 5  
228 (35.7%) in phenotype 3 (Figure 1); no statistically significant association between phenotype  
229 differences and the ratio of progressors with and without adjustment for age was found (Table 5). Based  
230 on the differences in clinical characteristics, the three identified phenotypes were labeled as follows:  
231 “higher daily cumulative hip loading phenotype,” “cartilage degeneration and less spinal mobility  
232 phenotype,” and “changed alignment and less mobility of thoracic spine phenotype.”

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234

235 **Discussion**

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237           The main finding of this study was that there are three clinically distinctive phenotypes based  
238 on clinical prognostic factors in patients with secondary hip OA. To our knowledge, no previous study  
239 has investigated the clinical phenotypes in relation to hip OA progression. Consistent with our  
240 hypothesis, these phenotypes have different clinical characteristics but the progression risk (i.e., ratio  
241 of progressors) is similar. Patients with knee OA could be divided into two to five phenotypes [3], and  
242 the identification of three clinical phenotypes in patients with hip OA would be an appropriate result.  
243 The findings will help to design of more effective interventions for prevention of the progression of  
244 hip OA depending on the characteristics of each group.

245           For patients included in phenotype 1 (higher daily cumulative hip loading phenotype),  
246 excessive cumulative hip loading during activities of daily living should be monitored to prevent hip  
247 OA progression. Clinically relevant characteristics of this phenotype included relatively young age,  
248 retained JSW, and maintained high functional levels possibly because of young age. Spinal mobility  
249 was greater in phenotype 1 than in the other phenotypes even after adjustment for age. Moreover,  
250 phenotype 1 had the highest daily cumulative hip moment in hip abduction/adduction, which was  
251 observed even after adjustment for age and thus could be an essential feature of this phenotype.  
252 Increased daily cumulative hip loading may be attributed to increased physical activity (i.e., steps/day).  
253 Physical stress level is a composite value of magnitude, time (repetition), and direction of stress  
254 application, and articular cartilage degeneration could be attributed to excessive stress [32].  
255 Cumulative loading is an index reflecting both the magnitude and time of the loading [10,33]. Given  
256 that excessive repetitive loading with a load similar to that during walking could damage cartilage  
257 chondrocytes [34] and increased daily cumulative hip loading was identified as a prognostic factor for  
258 hip OA progression [10], excessive vigorous activity of young patients may sometimes aggravate  
259 articular cartilage degeneration.

260           Phenotype 2 (cartilage degeneration and less spinal mobility phenotype) had multiple  
261 prognostic factors associated with hip OA progression. Age has been identified as a possible prognostic

262 factor for hip OA progression [9]. JSW was clearly reduced in this phenotype compared to other  
263 phenotypes, even after adjusting for age. The difference was beyond the clinically and statistically  
264 meaningful 0.5 mm [19]. Considering that minimum JSW <2.0 mm at baseline is a predictor of hip  
265 OA progression [35] and minimum JSW <2.5 mm is associated with future hip joint replacement [36],  
266 a mean minimum JSW value of 1.95 mm in phenotype 2 is associated with the risk of future hip OA  
267 progression. Furthermore, although spinal mobility generally decreases with age [37], phenotype 2 is  
268 characterized by reduced thoracic and thoracolumbar spine mobility even after adjustment for age.  
269 Reduced thoracolumbar spine mobility has been shown to be associated with future hip OA progression  
270 [11]. Various activities of daily living, such as sit-to-stand, include both the spine and hip motion; thus,  
271 as the mobility of one (e.g., spine) decreases, the required motion of the other (e.g., hip) increases [38],  
272 which could in turn result in increased local stress in the joint with increased motion (e.g., hip).  
273 Moreover, low HHS and reduced hip ROM are the more assessable clinically relevant characteristics  
274 of phenotype 2. However, they seem to be characteristics affected by aging as the difference in HHS  
275 and hip ROM between phenotypes was not observed after adjustment for age. Although no difference  
276 in the ratio of progressors between phenotypes was noted, phenotype 2 has multiple prognostic factors  
277 and may be more susceptible hip OA progression.

278         Phenotype 3 (changed alignment and less mobility of thoracic spine phenotype) is  
279 characterized by reduced spine, especially thoracic spine, mobility accompanied by reduced thoracic  
280 kyphosis. Change in postural alignment in the sagittal plane is common in patients with hip OA; the  
281 whole spine tends to tilt forward with anterior pelvic tilt as hip OA progresses [39,40]. This imbalanced  
282 sagittal alignment is likely to be compensated by reduced thoracic kyphosis [40]. Change in thoracic  
283 spine alignment is accompanied by muscle tension around the thoracic spine, which may in turn limit  
284 the flexible motion of the thoracic spine.

285         The identification of the three phenotypes with different clinical characteristics has  
286 implications for phenotype-tailored therapy in clinical practice. OA has been considered a multifaceted  
287 and heterogeneous syndrome; thus, to tailor the treatment according to specific phenotypes is essential  
288 [2]. For example, relatively young patients included in phenotype 1 may need to receive appropriate  
289 information and patient education, especially regarding physical activity and changes in lifestyle, as  
290 part of the recommended core non-pharmacological management of hip OA [41,42]. For the relatively

291 older patients in phenotype 2, spinal mobility improvement by mobilization and stretching, which are  
292 proven effective even for the elderly individuals [43], may be recommended because aging and  
293 cartilage degeneration could not be directly modified by exercise therapy. Additionally, improvement  
294 in thoracic spine mobility, thoracic spine alignment, and underlying imbalanced sagittal postural  
295 alignment may be suitable for patients in phenotype 3. There is little evidence on the effects of exercise  
296 therapy on the prevention of hip OA. Furthermore, there are no reports of phenotype-tailored treatment  
297 directed to prevent hip OA progression. The findings of the current study can contribute to the design  
298 of treatments dedicated to each phenotype. Further relevant studies, including advantages and cost  
299 effectiveness of phenotype-tailored treatment over a one-size-fits-all therapy are warranted.

300 This study has several limitations. The limited sample size might have weakened the  
301 robustness of the subgrouping and reduced the statistical power to detect differences in clinical  
302 characteristics between the phenotypes. Because we expected this limitation, bootstrap method was  
303 applied in this study to provide reliable and more powerful results by approximating the distribution  
304 of the population [44]. However, as this study is a preliminary study that investigated the heterogeneity  
305 of patients with hip OA, future studies using large samples are needed to validate our findings.  
306 Although majority of the patients with secondary hip OA in our country are females [15–17], our  
307 sample was limited to female patients with relatively mild-to-moderate secondary hip OA. Therefore,  
308 the findings in this study may not be generalizable to other hip OA populations. Moreover, progression  
309 risk was assessed as the ratio of progressors in a relatively short-term of 12 months, although the  
310 narrowing of the hip JSW over 12 months is meaningful with reported as a risk factor for hastening of  
311 THA [45]. Thus, a longer follow-up may result in differences in the progression risk between  
312 phenotypes. Finally, the result of the cluster analysis is dependent on the variables used in the  
313 subgrouping within a given sample and on the clustering method and criteria used. If new clinical  
314 prognostic factors will be found, reclustering should be performed including these factors;  
315 consequently, more robust phenotypes would be identified.

316 In conclusion, three clinical phenotypes with a similar progression risk were identified based  
317 on modifiable clinical prognostic factors in patients with secondary hip OA. The results of this study  
318 suggest that patients with secondary hip OA with a similar progression risk do not necessarily have the  
319 same clinical characteristics. In terms of prognostic factors for hip OA, phenotype 1 is characterized

320 by increased daily cumulative hip loading due to high physical activity level. Phenotype 2 has multiple  
321 prognostic factors, such as relatively older age, advanced cartilage degeneration (i.e., reduced  
322 minimum JSW), and reduced spinal mobility. Phenotype 3 is characterized by reduced thoracic spine  
323 mobility with change in thoracic spine alignment. This clinically and prognostically relevant  
324 subgrouping using longitudinal data would help clinicians in selecting a more appropriate treatment  
325 for the prevention of hip OA progression.

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327

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332 kinetic analysis.

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### 335 **Conflict of Interest disclosure statement**

336 There are no conflicts of interest to declare with regard to this study.

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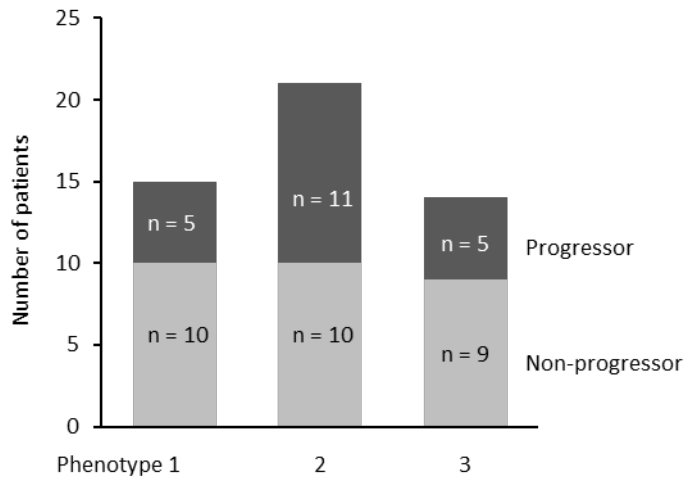


Fig 1. Number of progressors and non-progressors in each phenotype.

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**Table 1. Demographic and hip morphology characteristics in each phenotype and comparison between phenotypes.**

	Phenotype 1 (n = 15)	Phenotype 2 (n = 21)	Phenotype 3 (n = 14)	P-value* (95% CI)	P-value* adjusted for age (95% CI)	
				<b>2 &gt; 3 &gt; 1</b>		484
Age, years	36.3 ± 8.0	55.5 ± 7.9	47.2 ± 4.4	<b>1 vs 2: 0.002</b> (-25.25, -14.40) <b>2 vs 3: 0.003</b> (4.10, 12.50) <b>1 vs 3: 0.003</b> (-16.37, -6.74)	–	485
						486
Body mass index, kg/m <sup>2</sup>	22.0 ± 3.8	23.4 ± 4.3	21.4 ± 4.0	1 vs 2: 0.736 (-4.00, 1.48) 2 vs 3: 0.561 (-0.88, 4.58) 1 vs 3: 0.705 (-2.27, 3.53)	1 vs 2: 0.517 (-8.54, 3.10) 2 vs 3: 0.216 (0.08, 7.61) 1 vs 3: 0.974 (-3.16, 5.72)	487
						488
Minimum JSW, mm	4.21 ± 0.85	1.95 ± 0.99	4.46 ± 0.45	<b>1, 3 &gt; 2</b> <b>1 vs 2: 0.002</b> (1.58, 2.69) <b>2 vs 3: 0.003</b> (-2.96, -2.04) 1 vs 3: 0.323 (-0.74, 0.26)	<b>1, 3 &gt; 2</b> <b>1 vs 2: 0.002</b> (1.51, 3.56) <b>2 vs 3: 0.003</b> (-3.24, -2.17) 1 vs 3: 0.381 (-1.04, 0.48)	489
						490
Pain (VAS), mm	29.9 ± 25.9	52.9 ± 26.5	38.6 ± 25.8	1 vs 2: 0.051 (-38.31, -3.85) 2 vs 3: 0.250 (-3.69, 31.68) 1 vs 3: 0.432 (-27.00, 12.68)	1 vs 2: 0.842 (-49.76, 16.01) 2 vs 3: 0.993 (-9.52, 35.85) 1 vs 3: 0.827 (-36.44, 24.73)	491
						492
Harris hip score	92.7 ± 5.6	84.7 ± 10.3	84.1 ± 10.8	<b>1 &gt; 2</b> <b>1 vs 2: 0.036</b> (2.58, 12.73) 2 vs 3: 0.898 (-6.40, 7.97) 1 vs 3: 0.074 (1.31, 15.07)	1 vs 2: 0.186 (-0.88, 18.76) 2 vs 3: 0.961 (-9.17, 7.81) 1 vs 3: 0.240 (-0.35, 15.71)	493
						494
Hip morphology						495
						496
Sharp angle, degrees	44.4 ± 6.1	44.0 ± 5.1	47.1 ± 8.4	1 vs 2: 0.945 (-3.78, 4.08) 2 vs 3: 0.675 (-7.93, 1.39) 1 vs 3: 0.592 (-8.44, 2.10)	1 vs 2: 0.222 (-8.98, 0.66) 2 vs 3: 0.810 (-4.36, 3.75) 1 vs 3: 0.314 (-14.59, 2.04)	497
						498
CE angle, degrees	24.8 ± 11.1	23.9 ± 12.6	21.4 ± 10.7	1 vs 2: 0.626 (-5.88, 9.82) 2 vs 3: 1.000 (-4.84, 10.50) 1 vs 3: 0.903 (-3.27, 12.25)	1 vs 2: 0.586 (-5.20, 18.81) 2 vs 3: 0.914 (-9.00, 7.63) 1 vs 3: 0.639 (-4.06, 17.72)	499
						500
AHI, %	76.7 ± 9.9	72.5 ± 11.8	72.9 ± 11.1	1 vs 2: 0.822 (-3.21, 11.57) 2 vs 3: 0.916 (-8.32, 7.70) 1 vs 3: 0.732 (-4.25, 11.31)	1 vs 2: 0.944 (-9.93, 19.19) 2 vs 3: 0.920 (-9.20, 9.13) 1 vs 3: 0.225 (-1.76, 19.51)	501
						502
ARO, degrees	19.2 ± 9.7	24.4 ± 6.4	22.6 ± 7.3	1 vs 2: 0.099 (-11.27, -0.57) 2 vs 3: 0.462 (-2.55, 6.36) 1 vs 3: 0.458 (-10.83, 2.08)	1 vs 2: 0.624 (-11.26, 5.10) 2 vs 3: 0.705 (-2.57, 8.02) 1 vs 3: 0.691 (-9.32, 5.86)	503
						504

505 (Footnotes for Table 1)

506 Values are mean  $\pm$  standard deviation. \* Holm-adjusted *P*-value with bootstrap method. Bold indicates statistically significant. CI = confidence interval; JSW = joint space  
507 width; VAS = visual analogue scale; CE = center edge; AHI = acetabular head index; ARO = acetabular roof obliquity.

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527 **Table 2. Hip impairment characteristics in each phenotype and comparison between phenotypes.**

	Phenotype 1 (n = 15)	Phenotype 2 (n = 21)	Phenotype 3 (n = 14)	P-value* (95% CI)	P-value* adjusted for age (95% CI)
Hip range of motion, degrees					
Flexion	115.5 ± 16.3	109.3 ± 13.5	112.5 ± 14.8	1 vs 2: 0.738 (-4.14, 15.90) 2 vs 3: 1.000 (-13.00, 6.32) 1 vs 3: 0.591 (-7.82, 13.70)	1 vs 2: 0.932 (-10.61, 19.72) 2 vs 3: 0.882 (-15.54, 4.69) 1 vs 3: 0.706 (-20.71, 10.91)
Extension	12.0 ± 4.2	10.8 ± 3.3	12.2 ± 2.8	1 vs 2: 0.387 (-0.45, 4.18) 2 vs 3: 0.388 (-3.47, 0.77) 1 vs 3: 0.874 (-2.95, 2.53)	1 vs 2: 0.799 (-6.00, 4.05) 2 vs 3: 0.951 (-4.15, 1.41) 1 vs 3: 1.000 (-5.21, 3.86)
Abduction	25.9 ± 4.6	19.8 ± 5.6	24.4 ± 5.7	<b>1, 3 &gt; 2</b> <b>1 vs 2: 0.003</b> (3.22, 9.73) <b>2 vs 3: 0.046</b> (-8.63, -1.07) 1 vs 3: 0.414 (-2.12, 5.11)	1 vs 2: 0.308 (-1.45, 8.37) 2 vs 3: 0.057 (-9.20, -1.41) 1 vs 3: 0.660 (-4.29, 7.00)
Adduction	17.5 ± 2.7	13.5 ± 3.9	16.2 ± 3.2	<b>1 &gt; 2</b> <b>1 vs 2: 0.003</b> (1.80, 6.09) 2 vs 3: 0.038 (-4.82, -0.45) 1 vs 3: 0.274 (-0.98, 3.37)	1 vs 2: 0.752 (-2.04, 6.44) 2 vs 3: 0.891 (-5.45, 1.09) 1 vs 3: 0.762 (-3.01, 2.01)
External rotation	23.3 ± 12.2	24.7 ± 11.6	23.6 ± 12.8	1 vs 2: 1.000 (-8.69, 6.42) 2 vs 3: 1.000 (-7.24, 8.87) 1 vs 3: 0.807 (-8.04, 10.11)	1 vs 2: 1.000 (-12.57, 10.42) 2 vs 3: 0.893 (-9.71, 7.70) 1 vs 3: 1.000 (-15.95, 8.70)
Internal rotation	49.3 ± 15.7	32.7 ± 10.9	45.4 ± 10.9	<b>1, 3 &gt; 2</b> <b>1 vs 2: 0.006</b> (5.75, 24.83) <b>2 vs 3: 0.009</b> (-20.76, -5.89) 1 vs 3: 0.443 (-6.81, 13.08)	1 vs 2: 0.610 (-5.75, 20.49) 2 vs 3: 0.117 (-20.81, -1.34) 1 vs 3: 0.910 (-13.72, 11.14)
Hip muscle strength, Nm/kg					
Flexion	0.93 ± 0.29	0.85 ± 0.27	0.83 ± 0.19	1 vs 2: 0.732 (-0.10, 0.28) 2 vs 3: 0.777 (-0.13, 0.16) 1 vs 3: 0.780 (-0.06, 0.30)	1 vs 2: 0.334 (-0.06, 0.53) 2 vs 3: 0.573 (-0.28, 0.12) 1 vs 3: 0.402 (-0.03, 0.36)

Extension	1.59 ± 0.64	1.44 ± 0.51	1.35 ± 0.60	1 vs 2: 0.742 (-0.18, 0.60)	1 vs 2: 0.708 (-0.12, 0.90)	528
				2 vs 3: 0.627 (-0.28, 0.49)	2 vs 3: 0.818 (-0.61, 0.21)	
				1 vs 3: 0.777 (-0.18, 0.77)	1 vs 3: 0.600 (-0.39, 0.74)	529
Abduction	0.80 ± 0.20	0.74 ± 0.21	0.73 ± 0.24	1 vs 2: 1.000 (-0.07, 0.19)	1 vs 2: 0.849 (-0.09, 0.35)	530
				2 vs 3: 0.833 (-0.14, 0.16)	2 vs 3: 0.750 (-0.23, 0.07)	
				1 vs 3: 0.674 (-0.09, 0.25)	1 vs 3: 0.891 (-0.25, 0.20)	531
External rotation	0.37 ± 0.12	0.37 ± 0.13	0.34 ± 0.13	1 vs 2: 0.978 (-0.08, 0.08)	1 vs 2: 0.474 (-0.03, 0.18)	532
				2 vs 3: 1.000 (-0.06, 0.11)	2 vs 3: 0.544 (-0.13, 0.06)	
				1 vs 3: 1.000 (-0.07, 0.12)	1 vs 3: 0.582 (-0.04, 0.13)	533
Internal rotation	0.37 ± 0.16	0.30 ± 0.10	0.32 ± 0.10	1 vs 2: 0.528 (-0.02, 0.17)	1 vs 2: 0.148 (-0.01, 0.26)	534
				2 vs 3: 0.595 (-0.09, 0.04)	2 vs 3: 0.228 (-0.14, 0.01)	
				1 vs 3: 0.700 (-0.04, 0.15)	1 vs 3: 0.373 (-0.08, 0.20)	535

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537 (Footnotes for Table 2)

538 Values are mean ± standard deviation. \* Holm-adjusted *P*-value with bootstrap method. Bold indicates statistically significant. CI = confidence interval.

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**Table 3. Spinal alignment and mobility characteristics in each phenotype and comparison between phenotypes.**

	Phenotype 1 (n = 15)	Phenotype 2 (n = 21)	Phenotype 3 (n = 14)	<i>P</i> -value* (95% CI)	<i>P</i> -value* adjusted for age (95% CI)
Spinal alignment, degrees					
Thoracic kyphosis (+: kyphosis)	48.0 ± 7.4	41.3 ± 9.9	38.9 ± 9.3	<b>1 &gt; 2, 3</b> <b>1 vs 2: 0.028</b> (1.56, 12.93) 2 vs 3: 0.444 (-4.58, 8.44) <b>1 vs 3: 0.015</b> (2.46, 15.80)	<b>1 &gt; 3</b> 1 vs 2: 0.633 (-6.12, 8.87) 2 vs 3: 0.258 (-1.18, 13.33) <b>1 vs 3: 0.033</b> (3.51, 18.64)
Lumbar lordosis (+: lordosis)	35.8 ± 8.1	29.1 ± 11.6	26.6 ± 9.7	1 vs 2: 0.080 (0.70, 14.13) 2 vs 3: 0.514 (-4.68, 9.85) 1 vs 3: 0.057 (3.28, 17.44)	1 vs 2: 0.546 (-7.07, 13.41) 2 vs 3: 0.140 (-0.13, 14.32) 1 vs 3: 0.090 (3.56, 22.44)
Sacral inclination (+: anterior)	16.1 ± 5.9	14.9 ± 7.4	13.0 ± 7.9	1 vs 2: 0.611 (-3.13, 5.45) 2 vs 3: 0.972 (-2.99, 7.51) 1 vs 3: 0.810 (-1.88, 8.53)	1 vs 2: 0.616 (-6.81, 10.70) 2 vs 3: 0.480 (-2.04, 10.07) 1 vs 3: 0.624 (-2.20, 13.28)
Spinal inclination (+: anterior)	1.0 ± 2.4	2.0 ± 3.0	2.0 ± 2.2	1 vs 2: 0.588 (-2.91, 0.91) 2 vs 3: 1.000 (-1.91, 1.91) 1 vs 3: 0.753 (-2.74, 0.74)	1 vs 2: 0.631 (-3.07, 3.33) 2 vs 3: 1.000 (-2.68, 1.50) 1 vs 3: 0.948 (-3.94, 1.40)
Spinal mobility, degrees					
Thoracic spine	38.5 ± 10.0	28.6 ± 11.1	21.4 ± 7.7	<b>1 &gt; 2 &gt; 3</b> <b>1 vs 2: 0.026</b> (2.24, 16.40) <b>2 vs 3: 0.023</b> (1.09, 13.00) <b>1 vs 3: 0.003</b> (10.24, 23.09)	<b>1 &gt; 2, 3</b> <b>1 vs 2: 0.008</b> (6.83, 26.15) 2 vs 3: 0.473 (-5.26, 9.11) <b>1 vs 3: 0.006</b> (9.95, 28.58)
Lumbar spine	56.5 ± 12.5	46.0 ± 10.1	45.9 ± 13.1	1 vs 2: 0.081 (2.56, 18.71) 2 vs 3: 0.985 (-8.05, 8.02) 1 vs 3: 0.094 (1.56, 20.48)	1 vs 2: 0.432 (-2.50, 22.38) 2 vs 3: 0.981 (-7.87, 6.67) 1 vs 3: 0.390 (-4.98, 26.77)
Thoracolumbar spine	95.0 ± 13.3	74.6 ± 13.8	67.3 ± 14.8	<b>1 &gt; 2, 3</b> <b>1 vs 2: 0.003</b> (11.72, 29.62) 2 vs 3: 0.151 (-2.39, 17.76) <b>1 vs 3: 0.002</b> (17.28, 38.82)	<b>1 &gt; 2, 3</b> <b>1 vs 2: 0.003</b> (15.46, 36.84) 2 vs 3: 0.618 (-10.82, 11.72) <b>1 vs 3: 0.002</b> (17.19, 46.77)

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(Footnotes for Table 3)

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Values are mean ± standard deviation. \* Holm-adjusted *P*-value with bootstrap method. Bold indicates statistically significant. CI = confidence interval.

572 **Table 4. Gait-related characteristics in each phenotype and comparison between phenotypes.**

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	Phenotype 1 (n = 15)	Phenotype 2 (n = 21)	Phenotype 3 (n = 14)	P-value* (95% CI)	P-value* adjusted for age (95% CI)
Gait speed, meters/seconds	1.20 ± 0.16	1.16 ± 0.16	1.03 ± 0.14	<b>1 &gt; 3</b> 1 vs 2: 0.508 (-0.07, 0.14) 2 vs 3: 0.052 (0.03, 0.23) <b>1 vs 3: 0.021</b> (0.06, 0.28)	1 vs 2: 0.855 (-0.13, 0.22) 2 vs 3: 0.201 (-0.02, 0.24) 1 vs 3: 0.208 (-0.01, 0.28)
Steps/day	7,491 ± 2,211	6,061 ± 2.583	6,440 ± 2.757	1 vs 2: 0.270 (-0.27, 3.00) 2 vs 3: 0.660 (-2.31, 1.25) 1 vs 3: 0.602 (-0.95, 2.88)	<b>1 &gt; 2, 3</b> <b>1 vs 2: 0.040</b> (-0.05, 5.00) 2 vs 3: 0.382 (-3.32, 1.44) <b>1 vs 3: 0.039</b> (0.52, 4.43)
Hip range of motion during gait, degrees					
Hip flexion/extension	37.5 ± 5.0	35.7 ± 6.0	38.0 ± 4.7	1 vs 2: 0.632 (-1.65, 5.28) 2 vs 3: 0.633 (-5.75, 1.51) 1 vs 3: 0.782 (-4.20, 3.00)	1 vs 2: 0.474 (-9.99, 1.87) 2 vs 3: 0.656 (-5.24, 3.39) 1 vs 3: 0.660 (-8.12, 1.81)
Hip abduction/adduction	15.6 ± 3.7	12.1 ± 3.3	13.3 ± 2.5	<b>1 &gt; 2</b> <b>1 vs 2: 0.033</b> (1.26, 5.87) 2 vs 3: 0.220 (-3.10, 0.70) 1 vs 3: 0.124 (0.00, 4.38)	1 vs 2: 0.348 (-0.80, 5.51) 2 vs 3: 0.362 (-3.83, 1.09) 1 vs 3: 0.363 (-0.45, 5.36)
Hip external/internal rotation	20.7 ± 4.2	19.2 ± 6.5	19.2 ± 3.1	1 vs 2: 0.812 (-2.18, 5.17) 2 vs 3: 0.990 (-3.11, 3.12) 1 vs 3: 0.759 (-1.27, 3.93)	1 vs 2: 0.639 (-8.71, 5.67) 2 vs 3: 1.000 (-5.75, 1.51) 1 vs 3: 0.195 (-0.31, 5.73)
Hip moment impulse, Nm•seconds					
Hip flexion/extension	8.8 ± 2.1	8.4 ± 3.8	8.1 ± 1.3	1 vs 2: 0.858 (-1.88, 1.75) 2 vs 3: 1.000 (-1.20, 2.39) 1 vs 3: 1.000 (-0.80, 1.85)	1 vs 2: 0.895 (-4.85, 3.87) 2 vs 3: 1.000 (-1.72, 4.51) 1 vs 3: 0.516 (-0.41, 3.95)
Hip abduction/adduction	24.7 ± 8.6	22.8 ± 7.6	20.4 ± 5.1	1 vs 2: 0.382 (-2.95, 8.28) 2 vs 3: 0.534 (-1.46, 6.97) 1 vs 3: 0.264 (-1.00, 10.39)	1 vs 2: 0.693 (-10.51, 14.20) 2 vs 3: 0.304 (-0.95, 11.65) 1 vs 3: 0.342 (-1.43, 16.02)

Hip external/internal rotation	2.8 ± 1.2	2.4 ± 0.6	2.4 ± 0.5	1 vs 2: 0.352 (-0.18, 1.21) 2 vs 3: 0.771 (-0.28, 0.43) 1 vs 3: 0.465 (-0.17, 1.25)	1 vs 2: 0.674 (-1.05, 1.82) 2 vs 3: 0.288 (-0.04, 0.78) 1 vs 3: 0.470 (-0.51, 2.15)
Daily Cumulative hip moment, kNm•seconds					
Hip flexion/extension	33.0 ± 15.3	24.4 ± 11.8	26.5 ± 12.7	1 vs 2: 0.408 (-0.16, 1.81) 2 vs 3: 0.618 (-1.09, 0.60) 1 vs 3: 0.594 (-0.45, 1.64)	1 vs 2: 0.106 (0.02, 3.50) 2 vs 3: 0.393 (-1.60, 0.68) 1 vs 3: 0.111 (0.53, 3.28)
Hip abduction/adduction	105.4 ± 56.9	63.3 ± 26.6	58.5 ± 16.9	<b>1 &gt; 3</b> 1 vs 2: 0.066 (1.41, 7.40) 2 vs 3: 0.532 (-1.01, 2.01) <b>1 vs 3: 0.048</b> (2.06, 7.90)	<b>1 &gt; 2, 3</b> <b>1 vs 2: 0.015</b> (3.13, 12.40) 2 vs 3: 0.697 (-1.57, 2.67) <b>1 vs 3: 0.024</b> (3.98, 11.71)
Hip external/internal rotation	11.2 ± 8.2	7.0 ± 3.0	7.5 ± 3.3	1 vs 2: 0.369 (0.03, 0.93) 2 vs 3: 0.637 (-0.29, 0.15) 1 vs 3: 0.354 (-0.04, 0.87)	1 vs 2: 0.392 (-0.10, 1.74) 2 vs 3: 0.697 (-0.33, 0.26) 1 vs 3: 0.372 (0.01, 1.69)

574 (Footnotes for Table 4)

575 Values are mean ± standard deviation. \* Holm-adjusted *P*-value with bootstrap method. Bold indicates statistically significant. CI = confidence interval.

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586 **Table 5. Generalized linear model analysis with bootstrap method for the association between phenotypes and progression risk.**

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Variable (phenotype)	Association between phenotypes and ratio of progressors				Association adjusted for Age			
	$\beta$	SE	95% CI	<i>P</i> -value	$\beta$	SE	95% CI	<i>P</i> -value
Phenotype 1 vs 2	-0.79	1.98	-2.77, 0.58	0.257	-1.03	1.79	-4.30, 1.34	0.348
Phenotype 2 vs 3	-0.68	1.41	-2.40, 0.73	0.336	-0.79	1.93	-3.04, 0.94	0.307
Phenotype 1 vs 3	-0.11	2.65	-2.03, 1.74	0.876	-0.24	2.60	-2.88, 1.71	0.795

598 (Footnotes for Table 5)

599 SE = standard error; CI = confidence interval.