

Supplementary Table S1. Summary of Confounding and Pairwise Analyses

Outcome	Analysis Type	Method	Result
General Pain	Group comparison	Kruskal–Wallis	$H = 4.89, p = 0.299$
General Pain	Pairwise comparisons	Mann–Whitney U + Bonferroni	All $p > 0.005$
General Pain	Multivariable model	Linear regression	$p = 0.362$ (surgery effect)
General Pain	Adjustment	Propensity score (covariate)	$p = 0.362$
General Pain	Stratified analysis	DAS28 High/Low	$p = 0.270 / 0.197$
Foot Function Index	Group comparison	Kruskal–Wallis	$H = 3.23, p = 0.520$
Foot Function Index	Pairwise comparisons	Mann–Whitney U + Bonferroni	All $p > 0.05$
DAS28-PCR	Group comparison	Kruskal–Wallis	$H = 6.22, p = 0.184$

DAS28-PCR = Disease Activity Score using C-reactive protein.