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EDITED BY

Amit Bandyopadhyay,
Washington State University,
United States

REVIEWED BY

Yoshitaka Nakanishi,
Kumamoto University, Japan
Zikai Hua,
Orthotek Laboratory, China

*CORRESPONDENCE

P. W. Anggoro,
pauluswisnuanggoro@gmail.com
A. P. Bayuseno,
apbayuseno@gmail.com

†These authors have contributed equally
to this work

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A review on flexion angle in high-flexion total knee arthroplasty for Indonesian's need

D. Darmanto^{1,2}, R. Novriansyah³, P. W. Anggoro^{4*†}, R. Ismail¹,
J. Jamari¹ and A. P. Bayuseno^{1*}

¹Department of Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Diponegoro University, Semarang, Central Java, Indonesia, ²Department of Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Wahid Hasyim University, Semarang, Central Java, Indonesia, ³Department of Orthopaedic and Traumatology, Dr. Kariadi Hospital, Semarang, Central Java, Indonesia, ⁴Department of Industrial Engineering, Faculty of Industrial Technology, University of Atma Jaya Yogyakarta, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Total Knee Arthroplasty (TKA) proposed as an alternative treatment for damaged knee joints of humans is reviewed. The commercial application of TKA can help patients to improve their daily normal activities. Here the high-flex type total knee arthroplasty (High-Flex TKA) is typically designed for the patient's convenience on which the greater range of motion can be adjusted for extreme activities such as *Seiza* and *Muslim* praying. However, the present High-Flex TKAs have not fulfilled the needs of Indonesians for religious activities with a flexion angle of 150°–165°. Therefore, this review aims to examine the flexion range of High-Flex TKAs proposed for the needs of Indonesians. This study is a narrative review, all studies published and reviewed are related to the range of flexion angles on the use of products from many manufacturers and various types that have been used by patients, as well as the development of a CAD-based TKA design. It was proposed in the present study that the flexion angle on High-Flex TKAs may be optimized by thickening the posterior femoral condyle, creating a medial pivot system, and applying a single radius system on the femoral component. Whereas, the tibial insert component could be designed by setting up the posterior tibial slope, and creating a post-cam stabilizer mechanism. Many knowledge gaps related to the population of research objects, lack of research on extreme angles, development of TKA components, are discussed. Further needs of extensive research on TKA in Mongoloid races are anticipated to be introduced for extreme angles and most comprehensive product development for optimization of the flexion angle.

KEYWORDS

total knee arthroplasty, high-flex, femoral, tibial, knee joint

Introduction

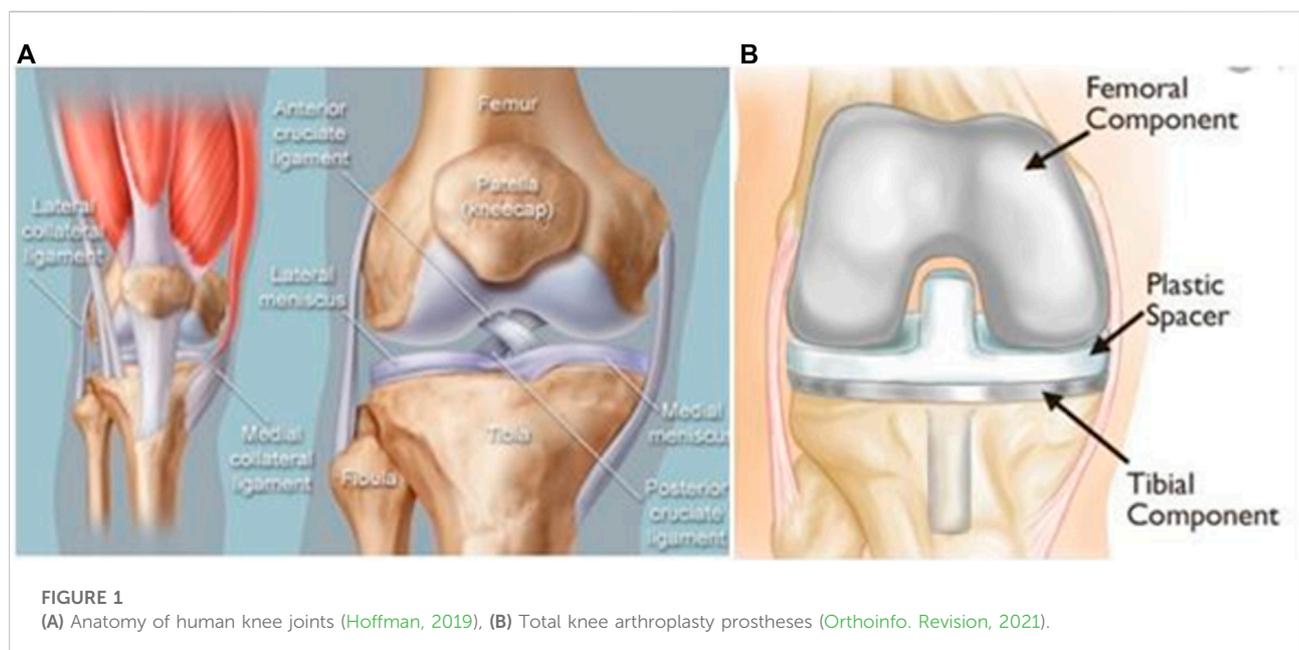
The knee joints are regarded as one of the complex parts of the human body, in which the thigh bone (femur) to the shin bone (tibia) is linked. In its place, the smaller bone in conjunction with the tibia (fibula) and the kneecap (patella) make the knee joint (Figure 1A). In daily life, the knees support body weights, especially when standing, walking, running, and jumping. Accordingly, the knee joint plays a significant role in mobilization or moving around. In this manner, muscles, bones, ligaments, cartilage, synovial tissue, synovial fluid, and other connective tissues strongly control the anatomical function and stability of the knee (Gupton et al., 2021). In general, the structure inside the knee joint can be categorized into three groups, namely stability structure (Ligament), load-carrying structure (Femoral, Tibial, and Patella), and other supporting structures (synovial fluid, capsules, and bursa) (Jawad and Michael, 2017). In particular, the knee joint commonly receives the most loading of body weight. The maximum load received by the knee joint can reach 3.9 times the bodyweight at the time of normal walking, and 8 times the bodyweight at the time of walking in heavy terrain conditions, while at the time of standing still receives a load equal to body weight (Kuster et al., 1997).

Further, the range of flexion in the knee joint relates to many physical activities, for instance, going up and down stairs requires 90°–120° flexion; getting in and out of the bathtub requires 130°–140° flexion; and kneeling, squatting, and sitting cross-legged require more than that 150° flexion (Rowe et al., 2000). In particular, physical activities such as cross-legged sitting, kneeling, and squatting are commonly performed in daily

routine in social, cultural, and religious activities for many Asians (i.e., Japanese, Koreans, and Indonesians). Type of physical activities in Japanese tradition such as *Seiza* (sitting on both knees), *agura* (sitting cross-legged) and *yokosuwari* (sitting with legs bent to the side) require a large flexion angle (Park et al., 2007), (Ohno et al., 2016). Also, *Seiza* requires a deep flexion greater than 150° (Figure 2A) (Ueo et al., 2011). Additionally, a Muslim in performing praying requires a large flexion. Sitting *tasyahud* in praying requires the greatest range of flexion; this physical movement is the same as *seiza* requiring a degree flexion from 150° to 165° (Figure 2B) (Hefzy et al., 1998), (Lestari et al., 2015).

Because of health conditions such as knee joint disorders caused by accidents or diseases such as bone loss (osteoporosis), cartilage degeneration (osteoarthritis/OA), rheumatoid arthritis (RA), and birth defects, the flexion angles have become restricted in their movement. Among the most common disorders is osteoarthritis/OA (Mora et al., 2018). In this case, wear and tear can occur on the femoral bone and tibial bone that has sliding contacted with each other, resulting in a reduction in bone surface volume (osteolysis). This disease may be usually associated with the aging process resulting in degeneration of the cartilage (Hafez and Mohammed, 2014). Accordingly, an alternative to overcome knee joint disorders is total knee arthroplasty (TKA), which mainly consists of femoral components, plastic spacer/tibial insert, and tibial components (Figure 1B). Currently, TKA system has been widely used as an alternative treatment for damaging knee joints in humans.

An idea of the scientific and commercial importance of TKA come from a search on the works of literature. Kurtz et al. (2011) reported in 18 countries until 2011 that TKA cases reached



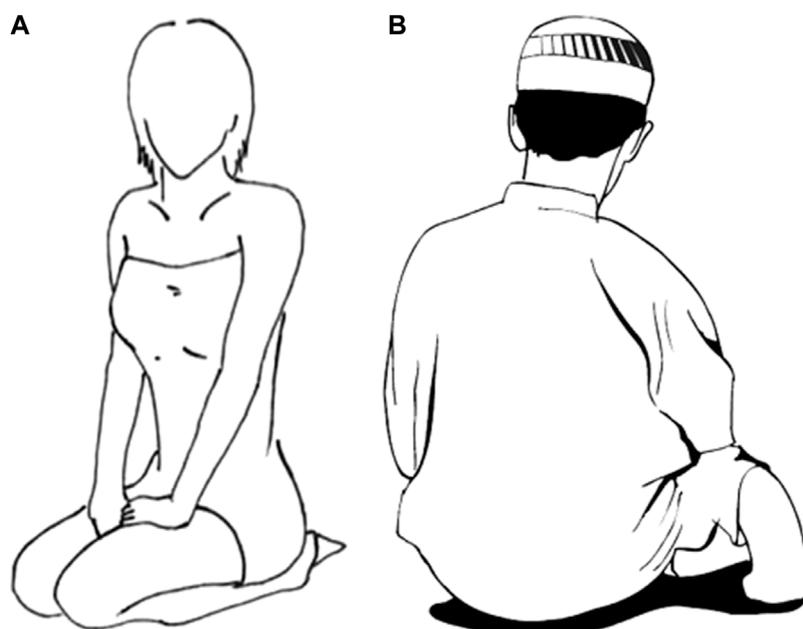


FIGURE 2

Sitting positions that require large flexion angles (A) Seiza (Ohno et al., 2016), (B) Tasyahud (Magee, 2008).

1,324,000 cases. The commercial application of TKAs may help many patients to carry out their physical activities. However, several studies have shown that patient's TKA has still an obstacle in a movement when compared to normal joints (Li et al., 2007; Yagishita et al., 2012; Hanada et al., 2020; Kosse et al., 2020). Here patients have problems when doing deep flexion, this can be seen at the postoperative flexion smaller than preoperative. The range of flexion angles is limited in postoperative TKA patients as shown in Figure 3.

Furthermore, two types of commercial TKA prostheses product could be found in the world market, namely the standard/conventional type of TKA (the ability of flexion 125°) and the type of the TKA with the high flexion (the ability of flexion $>125^\circ$) which is called high flexion (High-Flex) (Long and Scuderi, 2008). The range of flexion in the High-Flex TKAs can be set up to 15° – 25° more than those of standard types (Jain et al., 2013). The use of this type of implant makes it easy for patients to carry out physical activities for a greater range of motion than the standard type (Long and Scuderi, 2008), (Murphy et al., 2009; Lee et al., 2011; Sanz-Ruiz et al., 2016; Kim et al., 2021).

A similar literature study on the most prolific companies indicated that De puy, Johnson, Warsaw, and Indiana, Inc., in the United States produce TKAs standard and High-Flex types with the criteria for application TKA types based on the patient's activity needs. Further development of the High-Flex TKAs design based on the standard type was changed into the

femoral part by increasing the radius of the posterior condyles, thickening the condyles offset, while the tibial insert was changed for the thickness, lengthening the contact groove, and the stabilizer design (Long and Scuderi, 2008). It is, therefore, important to discuss whether the range of flexion suggested to develop TKA could be optimized for the physical activities, before further advocating specific use of TKA in religious practice. Moreover, this review aims to examine the flexion range of High-Flex TKAs proposed for the needs of Indonesians. Accordingly, a comprehensive literature review of the flexion angle range of the High-Flex TKAs are presented along with their potential applications. Further research for next-generation TKA system is briefly proposed for the key innovations responsible for the recent technological advances in modern total knee arthroplasty.

Outcome of high flex total knee arthroplasty

The commercial application of High-flex TKAs are proposed for assisting patients in physical activities that require a large range of flexion, such as the habits of Asian and Middle Eastern people in social, cultural, and religious activities. According to research by Sumino et al. (SuminoRubash and Li, 2013), patient's TKA from East Asia require a greater range of flexion compared to that of patients from western countries. It was reported that in



FIGURE 3
Limited range of flexion angle in postoperative TKA patients.

the Middle East for patients using this type of implant required a mean flexion angle of 140.2° when squatting and 132.8° when praying (Acker et al., 2011), therefore these angles are almost the same as those for a normal knee. Middle Eastern people have a larger thigh circumference than Indonesians, so the flexion is less than 150° when praying. This report confirms that the angle of flexion may be related to the type of population.

Accordingly, the physical activity of praying in Indonesia with the majority of Muslims requires a typical TKA model. The review of the study about TKAs are presented in Table 1. Obviously, the High-Flex TKA has a greater range of flexion when compared to that of standard type, but the difference is not significant, while two reports provided the significant differences of results (Sanz-Ruiz et al., 2016), (Lee et al., 2011). Likewise, a systematic review with Meta-Analysis conducted by Jiang et al. (2015) also reported that the difference in flexion angle between High-Flex TKA type and standard was not significant.

Recently, several studies have reported that the use of High-Flex TKAs have a risk of aseptic loosening until the revision has been performed even though the percentage is relatively small (Kim et al., 2021), (Han et al., 2007; Bollars et al., 2011; Kim et al., 2017a; Kim and Park, 2020; Lee et al., 2020). The rate of revision

after 20 years of use can be as high as 5.2% for the High-Flex type, and approximately 3.2% of the standard type (Kim et al., 2021). Another study reported revisions to the High-Flex TKA 1.6% and 1.3% occurred in the standard type for use up to 15 years (Kim and Park, 2020). However, the systematic review by Jiang et al. (2015) reported that there was no significant difference in the number of revision incidents in standard or High-Flex TKA, in which the High-flex TKA rate of survival is good enough to reach more than 10 years (Hafez and Mohammed, 2014), (Li et al., 2007; Yagishita et al., 2012; Kosse et al., 2020). According to Jeon et al. (2016) post-operatively after 6 years did not show symptoms of aseptic loosening in the use of this implant. This feature indicates that the High-Flex TKA type is safe to use and has the same service life as the standard type.

Further studies reported that the average flexion range of a patient's TKA is below 150° (Table 1). However, in some cases, the postoperative flexion may be up to 150° , whereas, before surgery, it can reach 153° (Kosse et al., 2020). The patient's High-Flex TKA with a Japanese lifestyle like sitting on the floor showed an increase in the flexion angle from 112° , prior to surgery, to 123° after surgery, but the level of comfort was reduced from 39% to 30% (Ohno et al., 2016). By comparing the TKA High-Flex Cruciate-Retaining model with Posterior Cruciate-Substituting, the flexion angle range is not significantly different (Yagishita et al., 2012). A similar study for comparing the TKA High-Flex Cruciate-Retaining model with Posterior Cruciate-Substituting, however, showed a significant difference in the flexion angle range (Seon et al., 2011). The different results of this study may relate to other factors, including the type of implant used, such as gender, age, weight, femoral size, ligament status, the range of motion before surgery, tibiofemoral angle, type of disease in the knee joint, surgical techniques by medical personnel, and postoperative therapy (Farahini et al., 2013), (Kotani et al., 2005).

Since 1989 in Japan, a typical bi-surface TKA, which has a unique shape, has been developed to meet the needs of their lifestyle of such *Seiza*, but it was only 3.2% of the cases suitable for foreign workers. Some patients have flexion angles above 150° (Ueo et al., 2011). The results of other studies have also shown that the lifetime of these implants could be reached above 10 years with good functionality and satisfaction (Nakamura et al., 2010).

Therefore, the criterion of success in TKA may include increasing the range of flexion angles and reducing the loss of pain in the knee joint (Farahini et al., 2013). Other researchers have reported that the criteria of success in TKA if the increase in flexion angle between pre and post-surgery is 15° – 25° (Jain et al., 2013). Importantly, the TKA success factor may relate to the achievement of knee range of motion corresponding to postoperative physiotherapy (Kotani et al., 2005), (Nakamura et al., 2010). These factors may include proper ligament balancing, management of the PCL, and flexion of the knee at the time of the wound closure. Correspondingly, those complex factors affecting the success of TKA may be adopted for the

TABLE 1 Typical patient's AKJ produced from different companies.

No	Author	Study desain	AKJ desain	Company	AKJ type	No. patiens/knees	Flexion angle
1	Young-Hoo Kim et al. Kim et al. (2021)	Retrospective comparison	NexGen LPS-flex	Zimmer Biomet	HighFlex	190 knees	$128^\circ \pm 6^\circ$
			NexGen LPS		Standard		$125^\circ \pm 9^\circ$
2	Mitsuru Hanada et al. Hanada et al. (2020)	Retrospective, Cohort	Stryker Kalamazoo, MI, United States	Triathlon	HighFlex	60 knees	$115.6^\circ \pm 15.5^\circ$
3	Young-Hoo Kim et al. Kim and Park, (2020)	Retrospective comparison, Cohort	NexGen LPS-flex	Zimmer Biomet, Warsaw, IN	HighFlex	1206 patients (one knee use Highflex, other knee Standard)	126°
			NexGen LPS		Standard		125°
4	Won-Gyun Lee et al. Lee et al. (2020)	Retrospective comparison, Cohort	NexGen CR-Flex	Zimmer Biomet.	HighFlex	Highflex 114 knees	$130.5^\circ \pm 16.4^\circ$
			NexGen CR	Zimmer Biomet, Warsaw, IN	Standard	Standard 176 knees	$130.5^\circ \pm 15.7^\circ$
5	Young-Hoo Kim et al. Kim et al. (2017a)	RCT	NexGen CR-Flex	Zimmer Biomet	HighFlex	960 patients (one knee use Highflex, other knee Standard)	129°
			NexGen CR		Standard		128°
6	Tomofumi Kage et al. Kage et al. (2021)	Case controlled	PS Mobile Bearing	Zimmer Biomet, Warsaw, United States	HighFlex	19 knees	$120.9^\circ \pm 9^\circ$
7	Young-Hoo Kim et al. Kim et al. (2019)	Retrospective comparison, Cohort	NexGen LPS-Flex mobile-bearing	Zimmer Biomet	HighFlex	164 patients (328 knees)	$125^\circ \pm 10^\circ$
			NexGen LPS-Flex mobile-bearing				$127^\circ \pm 9^\circ$
8	Nienke M. Kosse et al. Kosse et al. (2020)	Prospective Cohort	Journey II bicruciate-stabilizing	Smith&Nephew	HighFlex	62 patients	130°
9	Hiroshi Ohno et al. Ohno et al. (2016)	Retrospective, Cohort	Genesis II	Smith&Nephew	HighFlex	53 patients	123.4°
10	Pablo Sanz-Ruiz et al. Sanz-Ruiz et al. (2016)	Retrospective review	Bi-cruciate stabilized	Smith&Nephew, Memphis, TN, United States	HighFlex	77 knees with Highflex	115.9°
			Low Contact Stress	LCS®RPS, DePuy, Warsaw, IN, United States	Standard	73 knees with Standard	105.8°
11	Hideki Yoshikawa et al. Shimizu et al. (2014)	Cohort	Triathlon PS	Stryker Orthopedics	High flex (Single-Radius)	20 knees (16 patients, 1 male and 15 female)	$117.8^\circ \pm 10.9^\circ$
12	Man Soo Kim et al. Kim et al. (2016)	RCT	LOSPA	Corentec	HighFlex	44 patients (one knee used standard, other knee used highflex)	128.8°
			P.F.C. Sigma	DePuy	Standard		128.5°
13	Bum-Sik Lee et al. Lee et al. (2011)	Retrospective comparison, Cohort	NexGen LPS-?ex	Zimmer Biomet	HighFlex	Highflex 41 knees	$131^\circ \pm 10^\circ$
			NexGen LPS		Standard	Standard 39 knees	$121^\circ \pm 12^\circ$
14	David A. Samy et al. Samy et al. (2018)	Retrospective comparison	EVOLUTION Medial-Pivot	MicroPort, ArlingtonTN.	Highflex	MP:76 knees	121.7°
			Zimmer Persona Posterior Stabilized	Zimmer Biomet, Warsaw, IN		PS: 88 knees	115.94°
15	Young-Hoo Kim et al. Kim et al. (2017b)	RCT	MP	Advance; Wright Medical, Arlington, TN	Highflex	MP: 182 knees	117°
			PFC Sigma	DePuy, Warsaw, IN		PFC Sigma: 182 knees	128°
16	Andrew Shimmin et al. Shimmin et al. (2015)	Case controlled	SAIPH™	MatOrtho; Surrey, United Kingdom	Highflex	14 patiens	127°
17	Kazuyoshi Yagishita et al. Yagishita et al. (2012)	Prospective, RCT	NexGen CR-Flex	Zimmer Biomet, Warsaw	HighFlex	29 patiens, 58 knees	$125.7^\circ \pm 10.7^\circ$
			NexGen Legacy PS	Zimmer Biomet			$129.7^\circ \pm 11.3^\circ$
18	Masahiro Kurita et al. Kurita et al. (2012)	Cohort	Vanguard RP Hi-Flex	Biomet Europe, Bridgend, United Kingdom	HighFlex	14 knees (11 patients)	122°

(Continued on following page)

TABLE 1 (Continued) Typical patient's AKJ produced from different companies.

No	Author	Study desain	AKJ desain	Company	AKJ type	No. patiens/knees	Flexion angle
19	Jong-Keun Seon et al. Seon et al. (2011)	Retrospective comparison, Cohort	Nexgen CR-Flex	Zimmer Biomet, Warsaw, Ind	Highflex	(CR) 48	115.0°
			Legacy LPS-Flex	Zimmer Biomet, Warsaw, Ind		(PS) 47	126.3°
20	Xiaojun Shi et al. Shi et al. (2013)	Retrospective comparison	Posterior-stabilized	PFC, Johnson & Johnson/DePuy, Warsaw, IN, United States	Highflex	65 patiens (65 knees), Tibial slope	101° (grup1)
						Group1: $\leq 4^\circ$	106° (grup2)
						Group2: $4^\circ-7^\circ$	113° (grup 3)
Group3: $\geq 7^\circ$							
21	Toyoji Ueo et al. Ueo et al. (2011)	Retrospective, Cohort	Bi-Surface	Japan MedicalMaterial, Kyoto, Japan	Highflex	30 knees of 23 patients	144.1°

LPS-flex, legacy posterior stabilised highflexion; CR, cruciate retaining; RCT, randomised controlled trial; PS, Posterior Stabilised; PFC, press fit condylar; MP, medial pivot.

achievement of flexible angles in the needs of *Muslim* prayer and *Seiza*.

Development of femoral components arthroplasty for the knee joint

The development of the femoral design on High-Flex TKA from the standard model may increase the thickness of the posterior femoral condyle (PFC) 2–4 mm (Lee et al., 2011), (Kim et al., 2016), (Yang et al., 2016). The posterior femoral condyle size in the standard model is 8 mm, whereas the High-Flex size is 10 mm (Kim et al., 2016). The addition of thickness replaced the cut part of the candle femur bone (Kim et al., 2016). This condition made the posterior femoral strength better, whereas the greater the angle of flexion contributes to an increased load. It was proposed previously that the increase in thickness by 2 mm may increase the flexion angle of 10°. This is because the contact area between the posterior femoral and the tibial insert increases in length as shown in Figure 4A (Lee et al., 2011). The development of the CAD-based TKA model by Darmanto et al. (2022a), showed that the addition of 1 mm PFC thickness caused an increase in the flexion angle of 3.2°.

According to several studies, the change in the thickness of the posterior femoral condyle is directly proportional to the change in the flexion gap (Matziolis et al., 2012; Yoon et al., 2013; Chia et al., 2018). The flexion gap is the distance between the tip of the femur and the tibia during flexion, and it is influenced by the system and the type of implant used (Kotani et al., 2005). This change in thickness causes the knee to be unstable when performing rollbacks on flexion movements. Flexion gap and extension gap in TKA is shown in Figure 5. Ideally between extension gap and flexion gap is the same, so that in the case of anterior-posterior (A-P) movement the knee remains stable. The

thickening of the posterior femoral condyle will be a flexion gap greater than the extension gap.

In view of femoral components in TKA, two radius systems could be developed, namely single radius, and multi-radius. Multi radius and single radius systems on TKA femoral components are shown in Figure 4B. A multi-radius femoral system could be formed with a variety of different radius, while the single radius system may form of one radius only. Knee joint instability due to flexion gap changes could be reduced by a single radius system in femoral components. According to Shimizu et al. (2014), a single radius system in femoral components provides knee stability to mid-angle flexion. Additionally, a single radius system in the femoral component does not affect the attainment of the flexion angle. Obviously, there is no difference in the result achieved against the flexion angle between the single radius and the multi-radius system (Jin et al., 2020). The results of the development of a CAD-based AKJ model by Darmanto et al. (2021) showed that a single radius system increases the range of flexion angles by 5.2°. Also, other studies have reported that a single radius system reduces A-P translation by 80% (Clary et al., 2013), so TKA became more stable.

Another improvement in the femoral component is through the Medial Pivot which is the center of contact between the femoral and tibial centers in the medial part. The medial becomes the center of movement of the knee for both flexion and rotation; this causes the contact displacement in the medial to be smaller than the lateral. The medial pivot was more satisfactory for the patient, while the range of motion of flexion did not change significantly (Samy et al., 2018), (Kim et al., 2017b), (French et al., 2020), (Carvalho Júnior et al., 2017). The study conducted by Liu et al. reported that the difference in thickness between lateral posterior and medial posterior 2.7 mm gave the most optimal effect of internal rotation (Liu et al., 2012). It was proposed that the medial pivot TKA contact type is similar to the anatomy of the original knee joint. When the flexion angle is large, the internal rotation of the femoral movement can occur (Bae et al.,

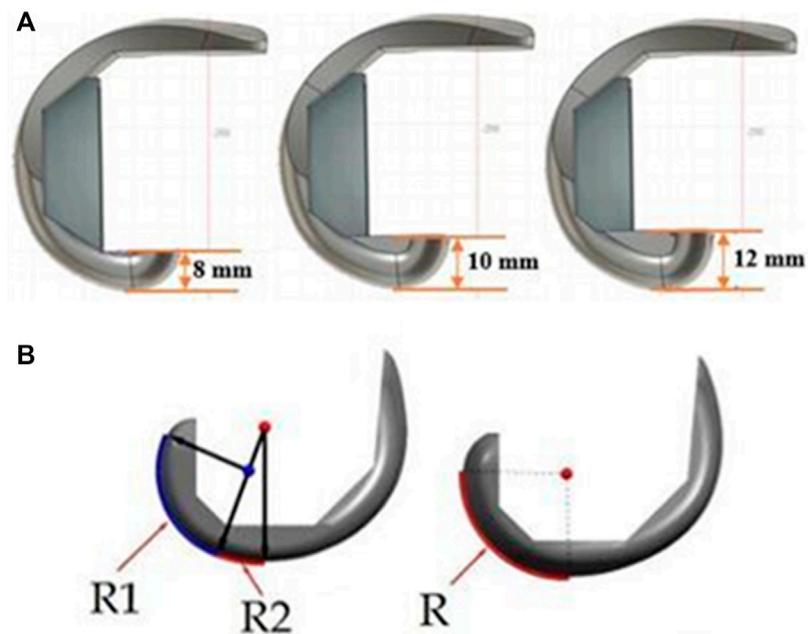


FIGURE 4
Development of femoral components AKJ, (A) Change of PFC (Darmanto et al., 2022a), (B) Change of radius system (Fekete, 2013).

2016). The medial pivot system affected the A-P translation on the medial and lateral sides, the low femoral condylar height difference will cause a small A-P translation difference between medial and lateral (Darmanto et al., 2022b). Modification of the femoral component by changing the posterior femoral condyle provides an additional range of flexion but has the side effect of aseptic loosening which can lead to revision. The improvement of the medial pivot system does not provide additional flexion angle, but rather provides stability and comfort to the patient.

Development of tibial components arthroplasty for knee joint

The tibial component has been extensively developed to support TKA to obtain a large range of flexion angles. Currently, the developed designs of the component have been focused on the post-cam stabilizer mechanism, tibial slope, and mobile bearing. In particular, the design of the post-cam stabilizer mechanism consists of two parts, such as the tibial post on the tibial insert component and the femoral cam on the femoral component, and the two are paired with each other. Post-cam mechanisms have been widely developed recently, and the results showed that a significant degree of flexion angle range could be obtained as compared to cruciate-retaining (Kosse et al., 2020), (Yagishita et al., 2012), (Sanz-Ruiz et al., 2016), (Seon et al., 2011). Principally, the post-cam

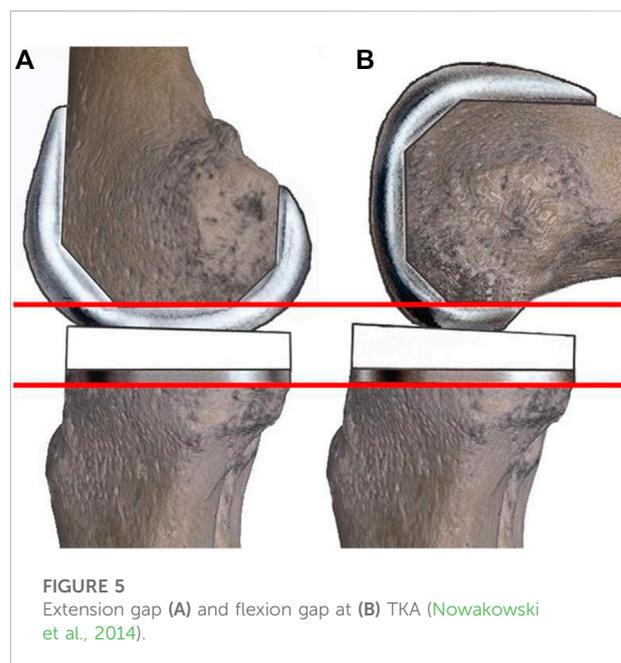
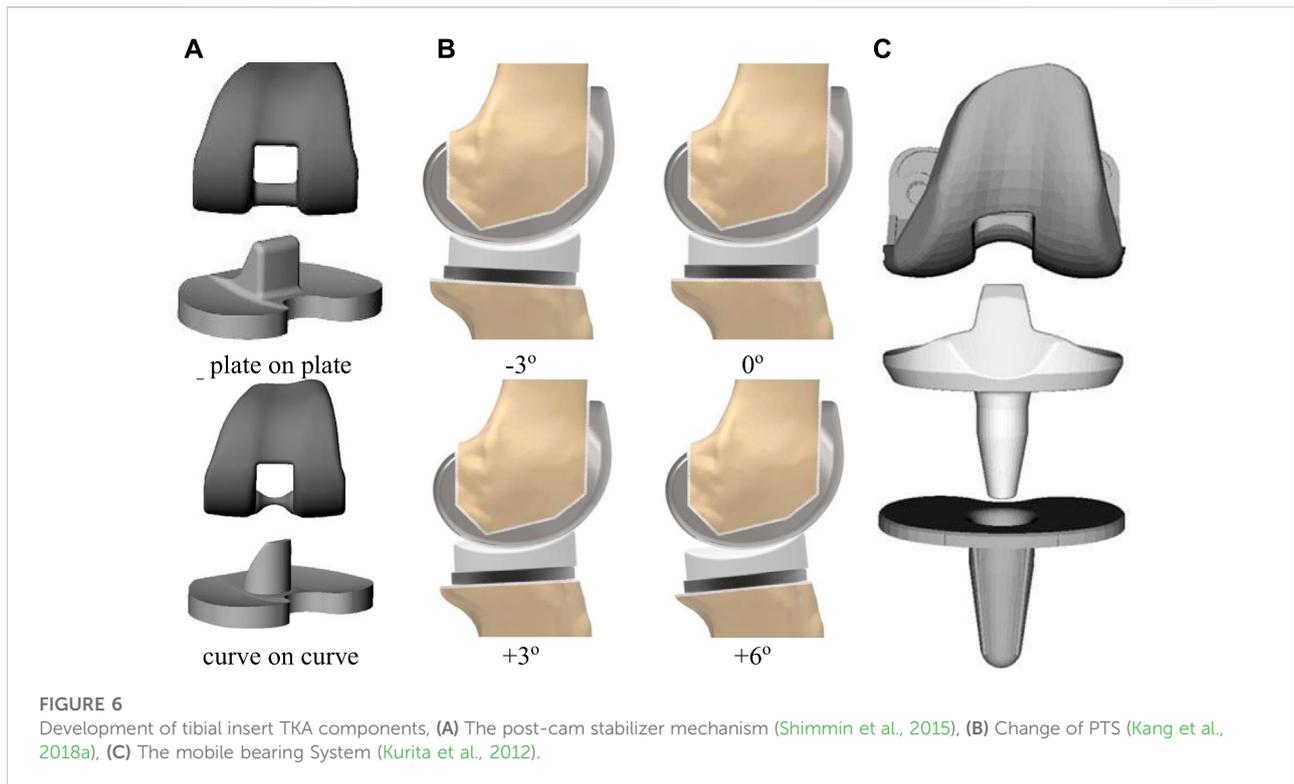


FIGURE 5
Extension gap (A) and flexion gap at (B) TKA (Nowakowski et al., 2014).

mechanism can prevent the femoral from sliding out of the tibial insert area when the flexion angle is large. In this case, the Japanese people with this type of implant feel a satisfaction rate of up to 30% when doing activities on the floor (Ohno et al., 2016).



Further development of the post-cam stabilizer design has made various models such as a curve on a curve and a plate on a plate model. The post-cam stabilizer mechanism for TKA system is shown in Figure 6A. The curve on curve model has the advantage of internal rotational motion when the angle of flexion is large. This reason is that the curve on curve model has a larger free-angle than a plate on a plate model (Lin et al., 2011). In dynamic testing with a treadmill at a speed of 1 m/s, the curve on curve model showed a greater A-P translation distance than that of a plate-on-plate model (Tamaki et al., 2013). Of these two post-cam models, the curve on curve model has a closer characteristic to the natural properties of the knee joint. The limitation of the TKA high-flex design is that the flexion conditions cause contact on the center of the post-cam stabilizer (Ingrassia et al., 2013), (Watanabe et al., 2017), so the contact stress becomes higher, these causes wear on the CAM part. This condition needs further research to consider the use of a better type of material.

In view of the tibial slope, a development of the tibial component is made by adjusting the slope towards the femoral (posterior tibial slope). This method is intended to further optimize the flexion angle. Here, the inclination can be adjusted in two ways, first by thinning one part of the tibial insert A-P, second by tilting the cut on the surface of the tibial bone. According to Hofmann et al. (Kang et al., 2018a), the tibial slope ranges from 0° to 20° are suitable for the type of human population. Moreover, the tibial slope significantly affects the flexion angle range in that the angle of inclination is directly proportional to the flexion range (Shi et al., 2013), (Darmanto et al., 2021), (Fujito et al., 2018), (Massin and

Gournay, 2006). In another study based on CAD models, every 1° slope increased the flexion angle by 1.03° (Darmanto et al., 2022a). In contrast, the tibial slope did not significantly affect the A-P translation distance (Darmanto et al., 2022b), (Fujito et al., 2018). The illustration of tibial slope changes in TKA is shown in Figure 6B. Another study reported that the larger the tibial slope provided the less contact stress (Koh et al., 2021), (Kang et al., 2018b). Obviously, the tibial slope affects the flexion gap and the slope of the tibial insert is directly proportional to the flexion gap (Nowakowski et al., 2014), (Okazaki et al., 2014). Accordingly, the flexion gap could be reduced by using a single radius system of the femoral component, as in the above femoral development. The development of the high-flex TKAs design by increasing the tibial slope of tibial insert is limited to a minimum thickness of 6 mm (Lingaraj et al., 2011), if the tibial slope is too large, the posterior thickness will be less than this requirement. Meanwhile, if the posterior part is at least 6 mm, then the anterior part becomes too thick (Darmanto et al., 2022a), so it is not suitable to be applied to non-revised patients.

Additionally, supporting the rotational movement of the TKA system requires the development of the tibial component of the mobile bearing model. The mobile bearing system with a post-cam stabilizer is shown in Figure 6C. In a mobile bearing, the tibial base metal and the tibial insert can move relative to one another, while the fixed bearing is in a permanent position. The range of flexion between mobile and fixed bearing types has no difference in angle (Chaudhry and Goyal, 2018), however, mobile

bearings make a greater contribution to the rotation angle (Kurita et al., 2012), (Tamaki et al., 2009). Correspondingly, the development of the tibial component of the TKA system by modifying the post-cam mechanism and adjusting the posterior tibial slope provides a significant change in the range of flexion. Meanwhile, the development of the mobile bearing model has a great impact on the angle of rotation. The mobile bearing model has the same function as the medial pivot, but the medial pivot is functionally more like the original.

Research gap and future research

The current research on the range of flexible angles in TKA has been intensively carried out for clinical cases from the American and European populations belonging to the Caucasoid race. This population has an active lifestyle of physical activity that requires low flexion angles, therefore the standard TKA is suitable for their need. However, future research works need to be done for the needs of Asians with Mongoloid race, in which this race has a habit of physical activities on the floor that require a high flexion angle.

Table 1 above presents the average flexion angle that could be reached still below 150°. In spite of using High-flex TKAs, only two researchers, (Ueo et al., 2011; Kosse et al., 2020) demonstrated their research results of being able to reach flexion angle above 150°, but the percentage of success of TKA is very low. Moreover, their works were not discussed in detail about the success of the range of flexible angles to above 150°. Accordingly, it is necessary to conduct a detailed study about the extreme angle on the TKA system.

There are also some reports indicating that the flexion angle could be optimized by the development of TKA components through thickening posterior femoral condyle (Lee et al., 2011; Kim et al., 2016; Yang et al., 2016; Darmanto et al., 2022a), creating a single radius system (Shimizu et al., 2014; Jin et al., 2020; Darmanto et al., 2021; Clary et al., 2013), creating a medial pivot system (Samy et al., 2018; Kim et al., 2017b; French et al., 2020; Carvalho Júnior et al., 2017; Darmanto et al., 2022b), setting up posterior tibial slope (Shi et al., 2013; Darmanto et al., 2022a; Hohmann and Bryant, 2007; Fujito et al., 2018; Massin and Gournay, 2006), and creating a post-cam stabilizer mechanism (Ohno et al., 2016; Kosse et al., 2020; Yagishita et al., 2012), (Sanz-Ruiz et al., 2016; Seon et al., 2011; Tamaki et al., 2013). In the market, each prolific company has its characteristic in the development of TKA components. However, further research is needed to accumulate these developments in one type of product, so that TKA prosthesis products could be obtained at the most optimal angle flexibility.

Conclusion

Based on the analysis of the current study on the application of TKAs, it can be concluded: 1) High-Flex TKAs on the market has not fulfilled the needs of Indonesians for religious activities which require a flexion range of 150°–165°, 2) the flexion angle on High-Flex TKA could be optimized by thickening the posterior condyles offset, using a single radius and medial pivot on the femoral component, while on the tibial insert component by setting up a posterior tibial slope and use a post-cam stabilizer mechanism.

Author contributions

PA conceived and designed the analysis; wrote the paper; correspondent authors DD: collected the data; contributed data; wrote the paper RN: contributed data and analysis tools RI: Performed the analysis JJ: wrote the paper; conceived and designed the analysis AB: wrote the paper; funding recipient; performed the analysis.

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Conflict of interest

The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

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