

# HOW DOES THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF HIP REPLACEMENT PATIENTS OPERATED IN STATE AND PRIVATE HEALTH CARE CHANGE IN THE POSTOPERATIVE PERIOD?

**Kajos LF<sup>1,2</sup>, Molics B<sup>3</sup>, Elmer D<sup>2</sup>, Kovács B<sup>2</sup>, Csákvári T<sup>2</sup>, Endrei D<sup>2,4</sup>, Kovács D<sup>1</sup>, Boncz I<sup>2</sup>**

1. Doctoral School of Health Sciences, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Pécs, Pécs, Hungary

2. Institute for Health Insurance, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Pécs, Pécs, Hungary

3. Institute of Physiotherapy and Sports Science, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Pécs, Pécs, Hungary

4. Clinical Centre, University of Pécs, Hungary

## OBJECTIVES

The aim of our study is to investigate the postoperative quality of life of hip arthroplasty patients in the state and private health care in Hungary.

## METHODS

Patients were selected at the Department of Orthopedics, Clinical Centre of the University of Pécs and at the Da Vinci Private Clinic in Pécs. To examine quality of life, the SF-36 and Oxford Hip Score questionnaires were completed before surgery, 6 weeks and 3 months after surgery.

## RESULTS

The research involved 128 people, 60 patients in the state and 68 in the private health care. For state care patients, the Oxford Hip Score increased from 16.60 to 28.67 after 6 weeks and to 34.68 at 3 months postoperatively ( $p < 0.001$ ). Patients in the private care started from 22.78 points before surgery, increasing to 35.01 points at the 6<sup>th</sup> week and 40.85 points at the 3<sup>rd</sup> month ( $p < 0.001$ ) (Figure 1). According to the SF-36 questionnaire, the physical health score of state care patients increased from 26.09 to 44.31 after 6 weeks and to 56.68 at the 3<sup>rd</sup> month ( $p < 0.001$ ), and the score of private health care patients increased from 37.32 to 64.89 (week 6) and to 77.35 ( $p < 0.001$ ), therefore both results were significant (Figure 2.). Only private patients showed significant improvement in mental health scores, increasing from 68.63 to 81.09 (week 6) and then to 86.18 ( $p < 0.001$ ), while public health patients' score of 66.85 increased from 67.25 (week 6) to 73.86 ( $p = 0.075$ ) (Figure 3.).

## CONCLUSIONS

The patients in both groups showed significant improvements in OHS and SF-36 scores at 6 weeks and 3 months after surgery. The baseline scores were lower in the state care patients, but showed similar improvements in quality of life, which is one of the main purposes of hip replacement surgery.

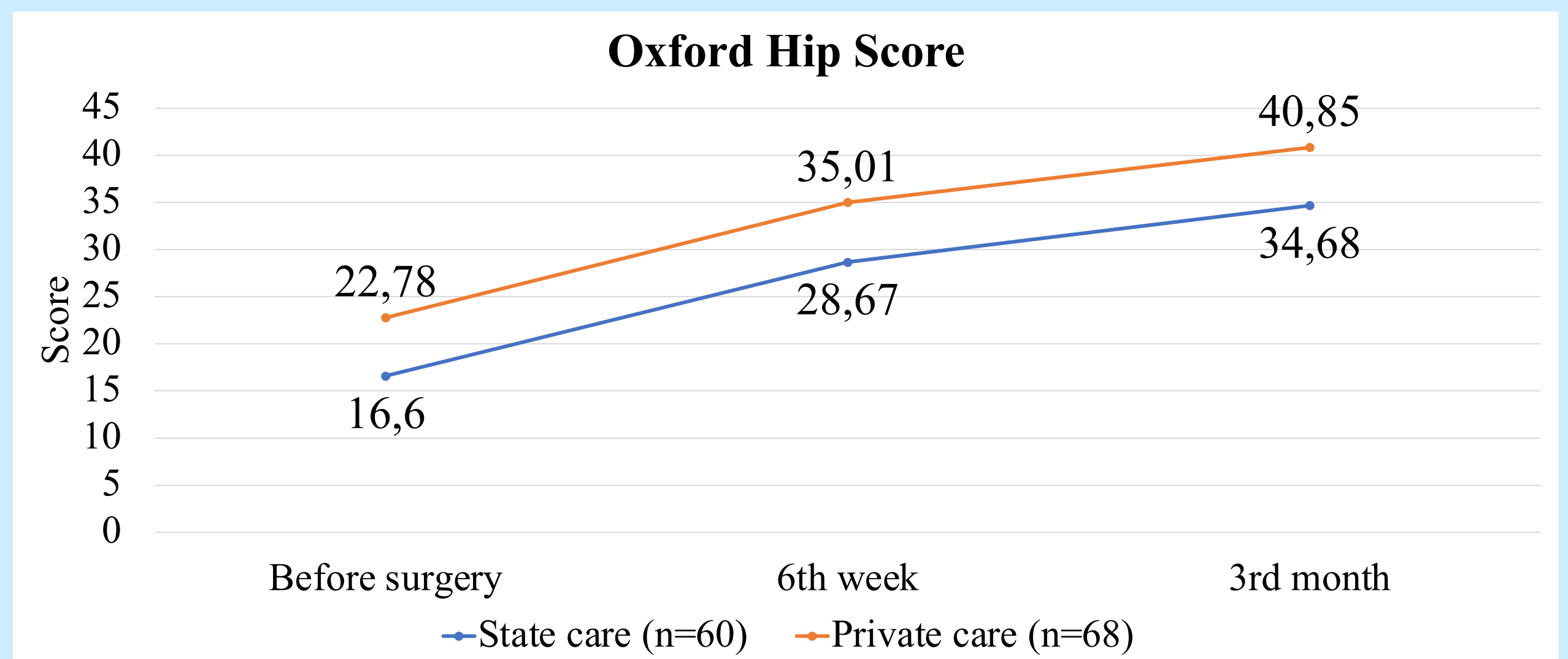


Figure 1.

Change in Oxford Hip Score over the study period in public and private health care

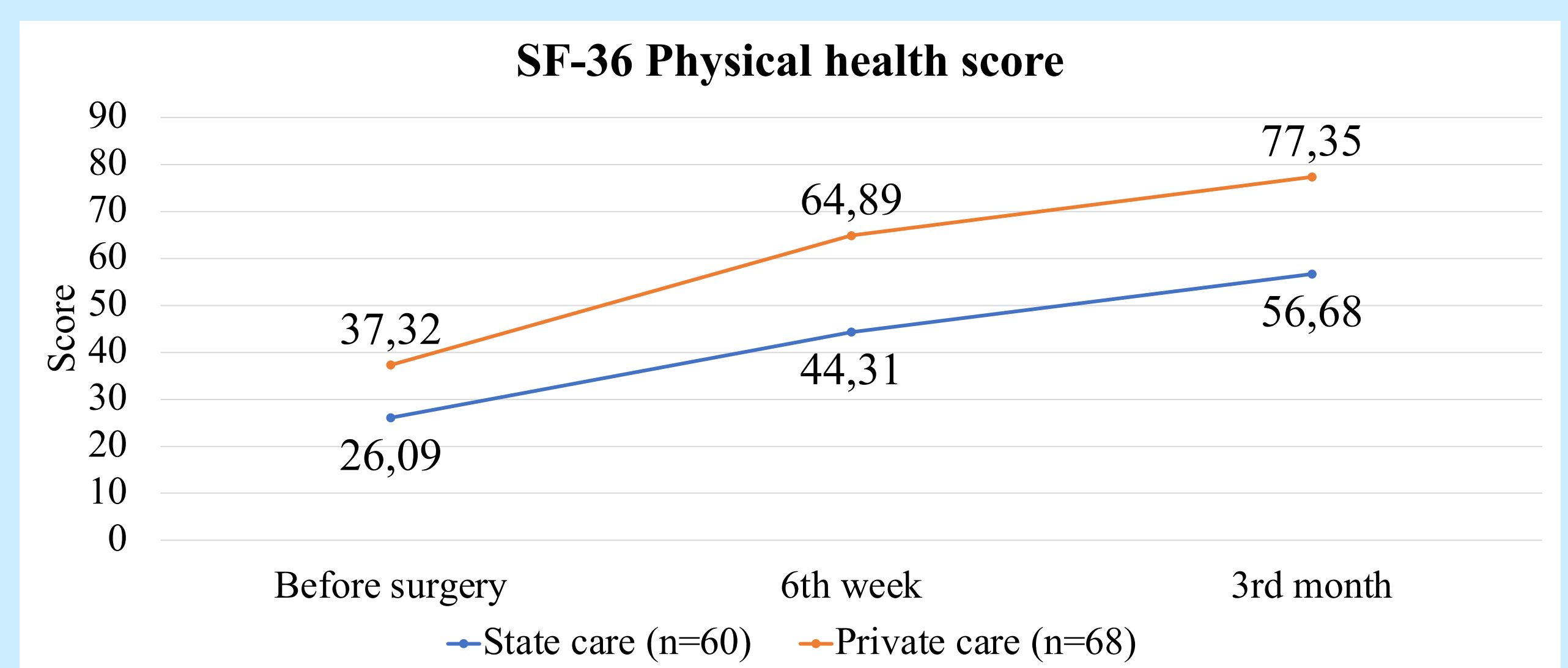


Figure 2.

Change in SF-36 Physical health score over the study period in public and private health care

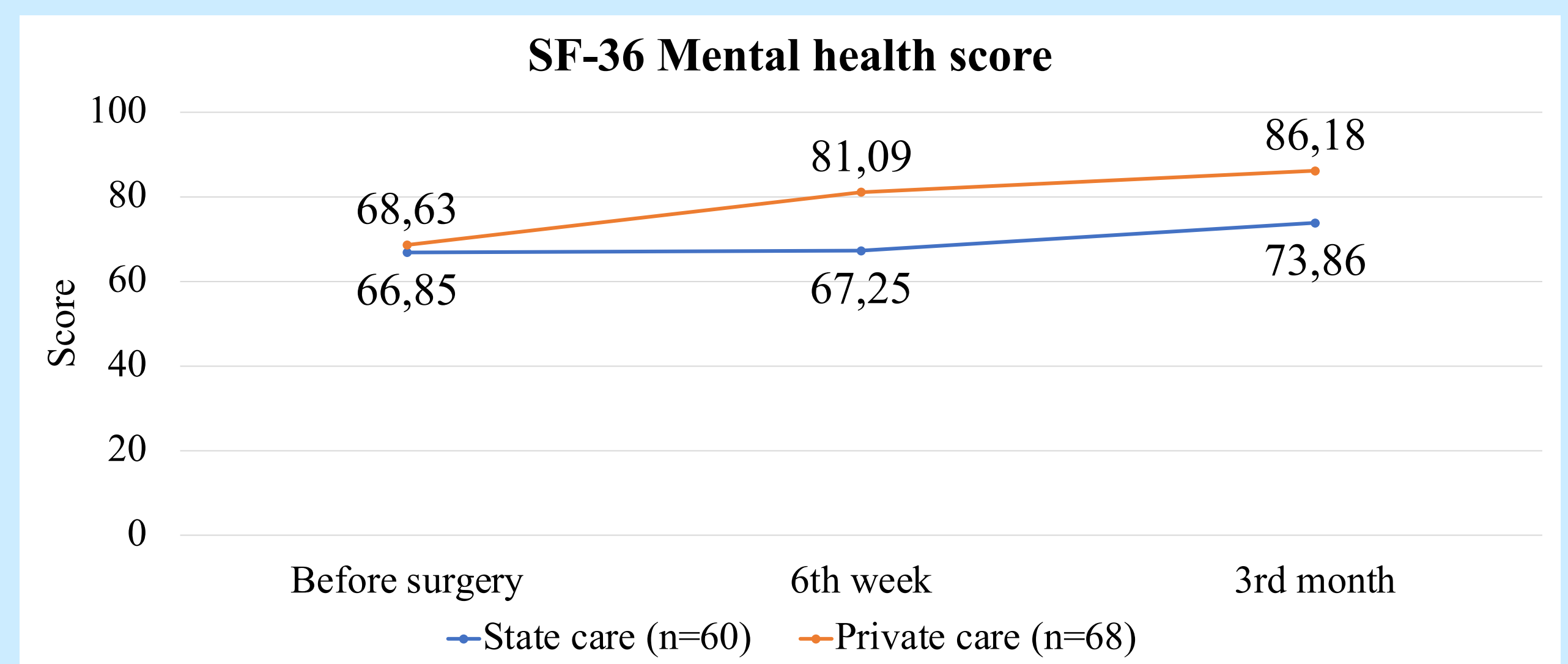


Figure 3.

Change in SF-36 Mental health score over the study period in public and private health care



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## Corresponding author:

Dr. Imre BONCZ, MD, MSc, PhD, Habil  
University of Pécs, Faculty of Health Sciences, Hungary  
Institute for Health Insurance  
E-mail: imre.boncz@etk.pte.hu