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1 Technical note

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3 The CJOrtho app: a mobile clinical and educational tool for orthopedics

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19 ABSTRACT

20 The need for modern patient evaluation tools continues to grow. A dependable and  
21 reproducible assessment provides objective follow-up and increases the validity of collected  
22 data. This is where mobile apps come into play, as they provide a link between surgeons and  
23 patients. They also open the possibility of interacting with other healthcare staff to exchange  
24 common scientific reference systems and databases. The CJOrtho app provides fast access to  
25 65 classification systems in orthopedics or trauma surgery, 20 clinical outcome scores and a  
26 digital goniometer. The development of free mobile apps is an opportunity for education and  
27 better follow-up, while meeting the demands of patients.

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29 Keywords: Mobile app; Clinical scores; Classifications; Goniometer

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34 INTRODUCTION

35 Mobile apps are being increasingly used in medical practice. While orthopedics has not been  
36 left behind, it is a bit late to the party, as Rozental et al[1] stated about the internet being a  
37 communication and educational tool. Healthcare practitioners have asked for such tools to  
38 support initial education, continuing education and their daily practice[2].

39 Our orthopedics practice has become more standardized, thus requires reliable data and  
40 common reference systems. Several themes have emerged in the available mobile apps for our  
41 specialty: fracture classification, goniometer, functional evaluation, patient records, etc.

42 However, the multiplicity of sources requires an assistant just to compile the information.

43 Given this need, the French College of Young Orthopedists (*Collège des Jeunes*

44 *Orthopédistes – CJO*) developed a mobile app “CJOrtho” that combines these various

45 functions and can be used by surgeons and other healthcare professionals. It is available in the

46 AppStore[3] (iOS operating system; Apple, Cupertino, CA) and on Google Play[4] (Android

47 operating system; Google, Mountain View, CA). In this technical note, we report our

48 experience with this free app, available in French and English, that can be used in daily

49 practice, and describe its uptake 4 years after being released.

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