

Table 3 Attitudes of patients and relatives who signed the surgery consent form towards the important clauses of the consent form

Statement	Total (n = 400)		Self-signed (n = 233)		Relative signed ^a (n = 167)		P-value
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
<i>Informed about nature of surgery</i>							
Yes	292	73.0	192	82.4	100	59.9	< 0.001
No	75	18.8	32	13.7	43	25.7	
Don't know	33	8.3	9	3.9	24	14.4	
<i>Informed about indications for surgery</i>							
Yes	383	95.8	233	100.0	150	89.8	< 0.001
No	13	3.3	0	0.0	13	7.8	
Don't know	4	1.0	0	0.0	4	2.4	
<i>Informed about possible complications of surgery</i>							
Yes	177	44.3	105	45.1	72	43.1	> 0.05
No	214	53.5	119	51.1	95	56.9	
Don't know	9	2.3	9	3.9	0	0.0	
<i>Informed about length of hospital stay after surgery</i>							
Yes	291	74.0	169	74.8	122	73.1	0.037
No	76	19.3	48	21.2	28	16.8	
Don't know	26	6.6	9	4.0	17	10.2	
<i>Informed about alternatives to surgery</i>							
Yes	58	14.8	35	15.5	23	13.8	> 0.05
No	175	44.5	101	44.7	74	44.3	
Don't know	160	40.7	90	39.8	70	41.9	
<i>Informed about possible complications if surgery was not done</i>							
Yes	306	77.9	192	83.8	114	69.5	< 0.001
No	58	14.8	27	11.8	31	18.9	
Don't know	29	7.4	10	4.4	19	11.6	
<i>Informed about expected benefits of surgery</i>							
Yes	330	82.5	208	89.3	122	73.1	< 0.001
No	27	6.8	9	3.9	18	10.8	
Don't know	43	10.8	16	6.9	27	16.2	
<i>Informed about type of anaesthesia</i>							
Yes	239	59.8	144	61.8	95	56.9	0.01
No	101	25.3	67	28.8	34	20.4	
Don't know	60	15.0	22	9.4	38	22.8	
<i>Given opportunity to ask questions</i>							
Yes	337	84.3	209	89.7	128	76.6	< 0.001
No	28	7.0	12	5.2	16	9.6	
Don't know	35	8.8	12	5.2	23	13.8	

^aRelatives: parent, spouse, sibling, other relative.