

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



August 27, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name:11408-edited).

Title: Total Hip Arthroplasty for Surgical Management of Advanced Tuberculous Hip Arthritis – Case Report

Author: Tan Shi Ming, Chin Pak Lin

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Orthopaedics*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 11048

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated as per editor's suggestions and using the Word Document: Format for CASE REPORT. The Section on Comments with sub-headings of Case Characteristics, Clinical Diagnosis, Differential Diagnosis, Laboratory Diagnosis, Imaging Diagnosis, Pathological Diagnosis, Treatment, Related Reports, Term Explanation, Experiences and Lessons and Peer Review have been added on. References have also been formatted based on Format for CASE REPORT.

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewers.

(1) Initial diagnosis was made in the index hip surgery where synovectomy was performed when the patient was age 2. Acid-fast bacilli was seen on acid-fast bacilli smear of tissue sample sent intra-operatively. He underwent a course of anti-tuberculous therapy. No further reactivation was noted. This change is covered under Section Case Report 1st Paragraph. We were unable to find further details of the type and duration of anti-tuberculous therapy due to treatment being prescribed a long period ago.

(2) The current episode is a long-standing sequelae of TB arthritis with arthrodesis and NOT due to a reactivation of TB arthritis. This was confirmed with pre-operative inflammatory marker assessment and intra-operative tissue samples sent for culture, AFB smear and histology. The presence of reactivation of TB arthritis would be an absolute contraindication to a total hip arthroplasty.

(3) The patient was not restarted on anti-tuberculous therapy because there was a significant quiescent period between the initial episode of TB hip arthritis and the current surgery. Various other authors have also shown that the recurrence of TB hip arthritis is very low even in the absence of chemoprophylaxis if there is a significant quiescent period. This is discussed in the 2nd paragraph of the discussion.

(4) We agree that the operative details should fall under the Section Case Report. We have moved the description of our surgical technique to this section under Paragraph 6.

(5) We have amended the spelling error on page 7 last 2nd line "complete curettage an debridement" to "complete curettage and debridement".

(6) We have amended the spelling error on page 11 paragraph 2 "A large 32-mm diameter head ws used" to "A large 32-mm diameter head was used".

(7) Observer citation number 19 has been rectified.

(8) We agree that molecular methods of detection of M.Tuberculosis have high sensitivity. However, during the surgery, the molecular methods was not available at our centre's laboratory.

.....

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Orthopaedics*.

Sincerely yours,

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature appears to be 'Tan Shi Ming' written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tan Shi Ming MBBS (Singapore), MRCS (Edinburgh)

Department of Orthopaedic Surgery

Singapore General Hospital

20 College Road, Academia, Level 4, Singapore 169865

Fax: +65 62249221

E-mail: tshiming@hotmail.com