

05 March 2017

Dear Editor,

We are pleased to submit the revised manuscript for consideration.

You may see our point-to-point response to reviewers' comments below.

Thank you for the opportunity to work with the World Journal of Orthopaedics.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Atesok', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kivanc Atesok, MD, MSc

Reviewer 1 - COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Excellent subject well written, at the point. Although are the infections, the result may be devastating. It is accepted as it is.

The authors are pleased to have such positive comments.

Reviewer 2 - COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This article presents an overview of the presence of deep shoulder infections following a rotator cuff repair. Overall, the manuscript is well written and include the necessary information about risk factors, diagnosis and management of this condition. The only comment I have is related to the quality of the

studies that were used in this review. In my view, a discussion about the limitations of previous publications (e.g. retrospective studies) is required.

The authors would like to thank to reviewer, and completely agree that level of evidence is limited to retrospective studies. This fact has been indicated more than once within the manuscript (please see below).

In a recently published retrospective study including 3294 all-arthroscopic RCRs, Pauzenberger et al.^[10] reported an infection rate of 0.85%. In another retrospective case series, Vopat et al.^[11]...

Although this approach is universally accepted, the literature mostly provides evidence regarding open debridement due to the fact that the great majority of published studies are retrospective case series including patients who had either open RCRs or arthroscopically-assisted mini-open RCRs^[7-9,11,27].

Table 1. Summary of reported microorganisms that were isolated from the patients with deep shoulder infections following rotator cuff repair in various retrospective case-series studies.