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Dear *World Journal of Orthopedics* editor, Dr. XXXX,

We would like to thank you and the reviewers for taking the time to review our manuscript and considering it for publication in the *World Journal of Orthopedics*.

We feel your valuable comments have helped us to enhance the quality of the manuscript submitted. We provide point-by-point answers to all comments below; original editor comments are in italics and associated (updated) line numbers for revisions are found at the end of our responses in parentheses. In addition, for convenience, all changes within the manuscript can be found in the yellow-highlighted text.

**Point-to Point Comments and Answers:**

Review comment #1-

*In the abstract, expand ESIN and RIMN before first use*

Thank you for you, we have expanded the abbreviations in the abstract. (Lines 57-59)

Review comment #2-

*Lines 123-6: could the author suggest how plain film-based methods can be improved?*

We further clarified how methods can be improved and the value of assessing the skeletal maturity directly from knee area. In addition, we explained the potential effect of such improvements on orthopedists in both research and clinical scenarios. (147-159)

**Editor comments:**

*Drs. Weltsch and Baldwin discussed the main options currently used to treat tibial shaft fractures along with underpinning (scarce) evidence. They also commented on the need for simple - yet precise - methods which are needed in order to evaluate skeletal maturity and growth potential and thus guide treatment and assess outcomes. The manuscript is sound and well written.*

We sincerely appreciate the positive feedback regarding our manuscript. We are pleased that we succeeded with our effort to describe the gap in evidence-based data surrounding the use of “adult-like” intramedullary fixation among pediatric and adolescent population. We feel we successfully addressed the actual need for the development of newer methods to evaluate skeletal maturity around the knee.

We hope that the revised version of our manuscript is now improved and is ready for publication. Thank you once more for your time, and we look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,

Keith D Baldwin MD, MPST, MPH

CC: Daniel Weltsch MD;