

Drs. Bao-Gen Pen & Quanjun Cui  
Editors-in-Chief  
World Journal of Orthopedics

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**Dear Drs. Pen & Cui:**

We the undersigned authors can confirm that this article is original, is not under consideration by another journal and has not been previously published. This study was performed in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki of the World Medical Association and the Danish national Laws. Any and all details that might disclose the identity of the subjects under study were omitted or anonymized. The Danish National Data Protection Agency approved this study (AHH-2014-010). There are no conflicts of interest related to the present study. This study did not receive grants or financial support from any organization or institute. Biomedical statistician, Thomas Kallemose, performed the statistical review of the study. Statistical review is performed before the submission.

According to the national laws it is not required to obtain informed written consent prior to conducting questionnaire surveys. According to the Committee Act §8.3 and the committee Act §1.4, all of the questionnaire surveys and retrospective studies are exempted from reporting to Danish Institutional Review Board (<http://www.dnvk.dk/>). The National Research Ethics Committee secretariat may be contacted by telephone on weekdays from 9:00 to 15:00. Tel: (+45) 72 26 93 70; Address: Holbergsgade 6, 1057 København K; E-mail: [DKetik@DKetik.dk](mailto:DKetik@DKetik.dk)

Sincerely

Dr. Roshan Latifi

Mr. Thomas Kallemose

Dr. Morten grove Thomsen

Dr. Henrik Husted

Professor Anders Troelsen

## **Institutional Review Board**

### **Detailed Information**

According to Denmark National Laws (Law no. 593 of the 14<sup>th</sup> of June 2011 about Ethical Treatment of health research projects and Law no. 2012-06-18 nr. 604) and Committee Act §8.3 and the Committee Act §1.4 of Det Videnskabsetiske Komitesystem (Institutional Review Board), Interview research, questionnaires and retrospective research are exempted from reporting to the board.

De Videnskabsetiske Komiteer

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