

Response to reviewers and editor:

We would like to express our gratitude to the reviews provided by the editor and peer reviewer for the careful and thorough reading of our manuscript and for the insightful comments and constructive suggestions, which are encouraging and help us to improve the quality of this manuscript. Please see below, in blue, for a point-by-point response to the reviewer's comments and concerns. All changes in the revised manuscript were highlighted in red.

Response to Reviewer#1:

1- The current article's title should be rewritten to reflect the goal for which the current study was conceived and conducted.

Response: we really appreciate the nice comment and the title was changed into 'Subchondral fatigue fracture of the femoral head in young military recruits: the potential risk factor'.

2- The informative balance must be maintained between the various sections of the study abstract.

Response: we prefer to express our gratitude for the penetrating comment. We have modified the abstract.

3- Only the most important findings of the current study should be presented in the results section of the current study abstract.

Response: we would like to thank you for the thoughtful comment. Now the results section of the abstract showed the most important finding only.

4- I hope the author(s) will use recent references in the MRI acquisition section that substantiate what the researcher/researchers said in this line.

Response: we would like to express our gratitude for this comment. Actually, we have referred to the recent study on MRI acquisition. The paper we referred to was '[7] Kim, D.K. and T.H. Kim, (2021) *Femoral neck shaft angle in relation to the location of femoral stress fracture in young military recruits: femoral head versus femoral neck stress fracture*. *Skeletal Radiol*, **50**(6): p. 1163-1168. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00256-020-03661-z>'

5- The final paragraph of the discussion section should be devoted to assessing the present study's merits and flaws, as well as outlining the current study's future directions.

Response: it is our pleasure to take your advice. In the conclusion section, we have shown the present study's merits and flaws.

6- Please specify in the conclusion section whether the current study met its aims, i.e. whether the research topic was solved.

Response: we are willing to thank you for your pointing this out. In the conclusion section, we have shown the present study's merits and flaws. And the topic of the research was elucidated clearly.

7- Some references are outdated and should be replaced with more recent ones. It would be ideal if the usage of references were between the year 2023 and five years previously.

Response: we would like to thank you for the thoughtful comment. We have tried our best to update the references.