

## ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Orthopedics

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 30927

**Title:** A 75 year old patient with painless swollen calf muscles caused by bilateral venous malformations.

**Reviewer's code:** 01220036

**Reviewer's country:** United States

**Science editor:** Jin-Xin Kong

**Date sent for review:** 2016-10-23 22:26

**Date reviewed:** 2017-01-12 23:00

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

good observation. pl fix grammatical mistakes

## ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Orthopedics

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 30927

**Title:** A 75 year old patient with painless swollen calf muscles caused by bilateral venous malformations.

**Reviewer's code:** 02444795

**Reviewer's country:** United Kingdom

**Science editor:** Jin-Xin Kong

**Date sent for review:** 2016-10-23 22:26

**Date reviewed:** 2017-01-18 16:08

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Please improve the grammar/ English. Please give an overview of the difficulties of surgical resection i.e. how will the AVMs be found at surgery, etc

## ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Orthopedics

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 30927

**Title:** A 75 year old patient with painless swollen calf muscles caused by bilateral venous malformations.

**Reviewer's code:** 00505859

**Reviewer's country:** United States

**Science editor:** Jin-Xin Kong

**Date sent for review:** 2016-10-23 22:26

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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

A 75 year old patient with painless swollen calf muscles caused by bilateral venous malformations. Roderick S.M. Piekaar<sup>1</sup>, Eline W. Zwitter<sup>2</sup> Paul P.A. Hedeman-Joosten<sup>3</sup>, Joris A. Jansen<sup>4</sup> 1registrar orthopaedics, MD, Alrijne Hospital, The Netherlands, 2orthopaedic surgeon, Alrijne Hospital, The Netherlands, 3 vascular surgeon, Alrijne Hospital, The Netherlands, 4orthopaedic surgeon, Alrijne Hospital, The Netherlands. Correspondence to: Roderick S.M. Piekaar, MD, resident orthopaedics not in training, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Alrijne Hospital, Simon Smitweg 1, 2353 GA, Leiderdorp, The Netherlands. roderickpiekaar@gmail.com Telephone: +31 6 20 88 53 98 Abstract A 75 year old man was presented with osteoarthritis of the knee. A conservative treatment was started with steroid infiltration. Besides this he reported a bilateral painless swollen calf muscle without traumatic cause, pain at night, fever or illness. On physical examination the soleus muscle was a bit swollen. The skin appeared normal without deformities and the arterial pulsations were normal. An X-ray did not show abnormalities in the bones. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) of the legs revealed bilateral multiple saccular intramuscular venous malformations involving the musculus

soleus. Intramuscular venous malformations in the skeletal muscles are rare, especially when the occurrence is bilateral. Bilateral venous malformations have the potential to be missed because of the intramuscular localization. Symptoms of intramuscular venous malformation can be often mild and overlap with myofascial pain syndrome, non-exercise related compartment syndrome or muscle strain. Key words: Venous malformations, bilateral intramuscular venous malformation, swollen calf muscles

**Introduction** A vascular malformation is an aberrant morphogenetic type of blood or lymphatic vessel. The origin of vascular malformations is an abnormal embryonic development of the vascular build-up after the endothelial stage. The malformations exist consists of an arteriovenous, capillary, venous and lymphatic type. Also combined structures are described (1). This Ssubdivision is based on the vessel involvement. When a lymphatic vessel is involved the anomaly is called a lymphangioma., Aabnormal connections between arteries and veins will lead to arteriovenous shunting with a cluster of vessels, the nidus. The most common shown type of vascular malformation is the venous malformation. These are mostly situated in the skin and subcutaneous tissues and are present at birth, although clinical manifestation can appear later in life (2,7). Intramuscular venous malformations on the other hand are rare, especially when the occurrence is bilateral, and these have the potential to be missed because of the intramuscular localization. (1,2) In this report we will describe a patient with bilateral extensive intramuscular venous malformations involving the soleus muscles with an asymptomatic appearance.

**Case Report** A 75 year old man was presented at our institution with osteoarthritis of the knee. A conservative treatment was started with steroid infiltration. Besides this the patient reported a bilateral painless swollen calf muscle. These swellings of the calf muscle were noticed a few years ago without any traumatic cause. He had no pain at night and he had neither had fever nor illness. The Ppast medical history of the patient was not contributory. On physical examination the soleus muscle was a bit swollen on both sides. There was full strength in all limbs and normal reflexes were found. The rest of the examination was unremarkable, the overlying skin appeared normal without deformities, erythema or warmth and the arterial pulsations were normal. A Ddimpling in both legs (right more than left) at the medial calf area was seen while standing. Laboratory test results were normal. An X-ray did not show abnormalities in the bones. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) of the legs rev