

Response to editor

M1 Please revise your article according to the reviewers' comments/suggestions and provide point-by-point responses to each in the letter format specified in the attached files.

Thank you for your valuable comments. We put the comments and modifications underlined and highlighted. We are very willing to reply any further inquiries and modify the manuscript according to your most valuable evaluation.

M2 A short running title of no more than 6 words should be provided. It should state the topic of the paper. For example, Losurdo *et al.* Two year follow-up of duodenal lymphocytosis.

We have formulated a short running title as you have kindly advised:

Bone lengthening along the anatomical axis

M3 Author names (unabbreviated) should be given first (first name, middle name (acronym), and family (sur)name) of all authors should be typed with the first letter capitalized, include a hyphen between the syllables of Chinese names, followed by the complete name of the affiliated institution, city, province/state, postcode and country. For example, Xu-Chen Zhang, Li-Xin Mei, Department of Pathology, Chengde Medical College, Chengde 067000, Hebei Province, China. In the case that one author represents two institutions, the institutions will be listed separately; for example, Giuseppe Losurdo, Domenico Piscitelli, Antonio Giangaspero, Mariabatrice Principi, Francesca Buffelli, Floriana Giorgio, Lucia Montenegro, Claudia Sorrentino, Annacinzia Amoruso, Enzo Ierardi, Alfredo Di Leo, Gastroenterology Section, Department of Emergency and Organ Transplantation, University of Bari, 70124 Bari, Italy.

Modification done as advised

M4 The format of this section will be as follows: Author contributions: Wang CL and Liang L contributed equally to this work; Wang CL, Liang L, Fu JF, Zou CC, Hong F and Wu XM designed the research; Wang CL, Zou CC, Hong F and Wu XM performed the research; Xue JZ and Lu JR contributed new reagents/analytic tools; Wang CL, Liang L and Fu JF analyzed the data; Wang CL, Liang L and Fu JF wrote the paper.

Author contribution was added as advised.

M5 A conflict-of-interest statement is required for all article and study types. In the interests of transparency and helping reviewers to assess any potential bias in a study's design, interpretation of its results or presentation of its scientific/medical content, the BPG requires all authors of each paper to declare any conflicting interests (including but not limited to commercial, personal, political, intellectual or religious interests) in the title page that are related to the work submitted for consideration of publication. In addition, reviewers are required to indicate any potential conflicting interests they might have related to any particular paper they are asked to review, and a copy of signed statement should be provided to the BPG in PDF format.

Sample wording: [Name of individual] has received fees for serving as a speaker, a [position; such as consultant and/or an advisory board member] for [name(s) of organization(s)]. [Name of individual] has received research funding from [name(s) of organization(s)]. [Name of individual] is an employee of [name(s) of organization(s)]. [Name of individual] owns stocks and/or shares in [name(s) of organization(s)]. [Name of individual] owns patent [patent identifier information (including patent number, two-letter country code, and kind code) and a brief description].

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest related to this work.

M6 Basic research and clinical research studies require a data sharing statement. The data sharing statement will be provided in the title page, and will be presented in the form as shown in the sample below. In addition, a copy of the signed statement should be provided to the BPG in PDF format.

Sample wording: Technical appendix, statistical code, and dataset available from the corresponding author at [email address or URL]. Participants gave informed consent for data sharing [or ...consent was not obtained but the presented data are anonymized and risk of identification is low... or consent was not obtained but the presented data are anonymized and risk of identification is low... or consent was not obtained but the potential benefits of sharing these data outweigh the potential harms because...]". If no other data, please state: No additional data are available.

No additional data are available.

M7 Only one corresponding author is allowed. Designation of co-corresponding authors is not permitted. The corresponding author's contact information will be provided in the following format: Author names (unabbreviated) should be given first (first name, middle name (acronym), and family (sur)name) of all authors should be typed with the first letter capitalized, include a hyphen between the syllables of Chinese names, followed by the author's title, affiliation, the complete name of institution, present address, city, province/state, postcode, country, and email.

All the letters in the email address should be typed in lowercase, and separated from the country by a period and a space. For example, Andrzej S Tarnawski, MD, PhD, DSc (Med), Professor of Medicine, Chief, Gastroenterology, VA Long Beach Health CareSystem, University of California, Irvine, 5901 E Seventh St, Long Beach, CA 90822, United States. astarnaw@uci.edu

One corresponding author is stated, Emara KM.

M8 Telephone and fax numbers should consist of +, country number, district number and telephone or fax number; for example, Telephone: +86-10-85381892 Fax: +86-10-85381893

Telephone and fax numbers were modified.

M9 An informative, structured abstract of no less than 246 words should accompany each manuscript. The Abstract will be structured into the following sections and adhering to the word count thresholds indicated in parentheses:

AIM (no more than 20 words): The purpose of the study should be stated clearly and with no or minimal background information, following the format of: "To investigate/study/determine..."

METHODS (no less than 80 words): You should present the materials and methods used for all of the data presented in the preceding Results section of the abstract.

RESULTS (no less than 120 words): You should present *P* values where appropriate. You must provide relevant data to illustrate how the statistical values were obtained, e.g. 6.92 ± 3.86 vs 3.61 ± 1.67 , $P < 0.001$.

CONCLUSION (no more than 26 words): You should present your findings and implications that are within the scope of the data you have presented in the preceding Results section. The conclusion should be written in the present tense.

A structured abstract is included as advised.

M10 Please list 5-10 keywords for each paper, which reflect the content of the study and are selected mainly from the *Index Medicus*. Each keyword is to be separated by a semicolon.

Keywords were added.

M11 Please write a summary of no more than 100 words to present the core content of your manuscript, highlighting the most innovative and important findings and/or arguments. The purpose of the Core Tip is to attract readers' interest for reading the full version of your article and increasing the impact of your article in your field of study.

A core tip summary is included as advised.

M13 In order to attract readers to read your full-text article, we request that the first author make an audio file describing your final core tip. This audio file will be published online, along with your article. Please submit audio files according to the following specifications:

Acceptable file formats: .mp3, .wav, or .aiff

Maximum file size: 10 MB

To achieve the best quality, when saving audio files as an mp3, use a setting of 256 kbps or higher for stereo or 128 kbps or higher for mono. Sampling rate should be either 44.1 kHz or 48 kHz. Bit rate should be either 16 or 24 bit. To avoid audible clipping noise, please make sure that audio levels do not exceed 0 dBFS.

An audio core tip is included.

M13 The citation contains, authors' names and title. The name of the first author should be typed in bold-faced letters; the family (sur)name of all authors should be typed with the first letter capitalized, followed by their abbreviated first and middle initials. For example, an article by Jae Moon Yoon, Ki Young Son, Chun Sick Eom, Daniel Durrance, Sang Min Park will be written as Yoon JM, Son KY, Eom CS, Durrance D, Park SM. Pre-existing diabetes mellitus increases the risk of gastric cancer: A meta-analysis.

Citation names were modified.

M14 The comments section aims to help readers avoid misunderstanding or over-interpretation of your study by summarizing the content of your article, including technical details, in a precise and simple manner. The comments section is broken down into the following subsections: background, research frontiers, innovations and breakthroughs, significance of the applications, terminology, and comments from peer reviewers. The specific requirements for each subsection are provided below

Comments section was added as advised.

M15 Please add PubMed citation numbers and DOI citation to the reference list and list all authors. Please revise throughout. The author should provide the first page of the paper without PMID and DOI.

PMID (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed>)

DOI (<http://www.crossref.org/SimpleTextQuery/>)

References were edited as advised. Thank You.

Response to Reviewer 2

The authors present a review article about the effects of lengthening along the anatomical axis, using a trigonometric approach

Thank you very much for your kind and most valuable comments. We tried to answer your queries, and we are very willing to reply on any further questions and modify the manuscript according to your further evaluation.

-The title would benefit from a more detailed description of the manuscript.

The manuscript title was modified, and a short running title was added too. Thank You.

-Femoral neck angle changes during lifetime. Please declare and explain why you used a CCD angle of 130 in all ages.

-Lengthening distances up to 18 cm are not realistic for clinical use as intramedullary lengthening nails have their limitations. Burghardt et al. report about lengthening distances on the femur of approx. 4.4 cm. Please explain why you used these values.

We agree of course with your kind reminder. Yet the values used in our trigonometric review were mainly for theoretical purpose. We have followed the sequence of lengthening distances to reach a final theoretical conclusion. For the CCD angle, a fixed value was used to generate the results in simple way. An angle of 130 degrees could be seen in normal individuals during life time and hence we have picked a fixed number to follow the changing results of AMA angle.

-Why did the authors use different values for the conclusion in the abstract and the manuscript? The expected lateralisation should be stated – as well as its clinical relevance.

The conclusion section was modified to fit the abstract as advised. Also the mechanical axis lateralization that was mentioned in literature was stated in the conclusion section.

-Generally, the manuscript could benefit from minor edits for language.

Language edition were done.

-References: Ref 3 – Herzenberg

The reference has been modified. Thank You.