

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Orthopedics  
**Manuscript NO:** 32806  
**Title:** The hypothenar fat pad flap vs conventional open release in primary carpal tunnel syndrome: A randomized controlled trial.  
**Reviewer's code:** 01220036  
**Reviewer's country:** United States  
**Science editor:** Jin-Xin Kong  
**Date sent for review:** 2017-02-02  
**Date reviewed:** 2017-02-11

#### **ANSWERING TO REVIEWER**

Thank you for your comments.

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Orthopedics  
**Manuscript NO:** 32806  
**Title:** The hypothenar fat pad flap vs conventional open release in primary carpal tunnel syndrome: A randomized controlled trial.  
**Reviewer's code:** 03677503  
**Reviewer's country:** Greece  
**Science editor:** Jin-Xin Kong  
**Date sent for review:** 2017-06-05  
**Date reviewed:** 2017-06-06

#### **ANSWERING TO REVIEWER**

Thank you for your comments, this study compared the hypothenar fat pad flap and conventional carpal tunnel release by block of four randomization. The technique of hypothenar fat pad flap to cover the median nerve after released the transverse carpal ligament is not a new technique but coverage by this flap in primary carpal tunnel release had never been studied. The complications were described as painful scar and pain on hypothenar eminence in each group. The nerve conduction study was used to detect the difference between pre and postoperative, we didn't used for diagnostic tools.

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Orthopedics  
**Manuscript NO:** 32806  
**Title:** The hypothenar fat pad flap vs conventional open release in primary carpal tunnel syndrome: A randomized controlled trial.  
**Reviewer's code:** 00501340  
**Reviewer's country:** Greece  
**Science editor:** Jin-Xin Kong  
**Date sent for review:** 2017-06-05  
**Date reviewed:** 2017-06-06

#### **ANSWERING TO REVIEWER**

Thank you for your comments, the results of this study had no patient need to revision surgery. The indications for HTFPF actually are recurrent or persistent carpal tunnel syndrome with median nerve hypersensitivity, we will additional in the manuscript. Nowadays we didn't use this flap routinely in primary carpal tunnel release.

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**Title:** The hypothenar fat pad flap vs conventional open release in primary carpal tunnel syndrome: A randomized controlled trial.

**Reviewer's code:** 02705200

**Reviewer's country:** Bulgaria

**Science editor:** Jin-Xin Kong

**Date sent for review:** 2017-06-05

**Date reviewed:** 2017-06-07

#### **ANSWERING TO REVIEWER**

Thank you for your comments, we will additional the sentence that you mentioned in the manuscript. In our study we didn't found any anatomical variations or abnormal mass.