



**PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

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

**Manuscript NO:** 33634

**Title:** Soft tissue swelling incidence using demineralized bone matrix in the outpatient setting

**Reviewer's code:** 02444729

**Reviewer's country:** Greece

**Science editor:** Fang-Fang Ji

**Date sent for review:** 2017-06-14

**Date reviewed:** 2017-06-17

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input 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 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**

The authors of this paper determine the outcomes of DBM use in anterior cervical discectomy and fusion (ACDF) in an ambulatory surgery center (ASC) by evaluating prevertebral soft tissue swelling (PVSTS) in 145 patients with prospectively collected data. The authors showed that ACDF with adjunct DBM packed PEEK cages has a significant intragroup improvement in VAS neck pain scores and NDI scores (p = 0.001). There were no reported serious patient complications; post-operative radiographs demonstrated no significant difference in prevertebral space. We conclude that ACDF with DBM-packed PEEK cages can be safely done in an ASC with satisfactory outcomes. Interesting paper with big number of cases. Limitations: this is one surgeon series only. Another bias is : All preoperative radiographs were reviewed by the chief surgeon. This seems not to be the rule in such evaluations. At which time were plain roentgenograms made for fusion evaluation? Which method was used by the raters to secure diagnosis of interbody fusion? Who has



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evaluated the fusion postop? Regarding the method of prevertebral edema measurement I have some concerns regarding repeatability. Is this method established and validated? How many radiologists were involved? Shorten the results section and put the data in the Tables. Discussion section ok



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## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 33634

**Title:** Soft tissue swelling incidence using demineralized bone matrix in the outpatient setting

**Reviewer's code:** 00501340

**Reviewer's country:** Greece

**Science editor:** Fang-Fang Ji

**Date sent for review:** 2017-06-14

**Date reviewed:** 2017-06-21

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 checked="" 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
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<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
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		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

### COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Very good work. Some minor changes needed.



**PEER-REVIEW REPORT**

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

**Manuscript NO:** 33634

**Title:** Soft tissue swelling incidence using demineralized bone matrix in the outpatient setting

**Reviewer’s code:** 03067679

**Reviewer’s country:** United States

**Science editor:** Fang-Fang Ji

**Date sent for review:** 2017-06-21

**Date reviewed:** 2017-07-05

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
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<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**

Very well written and straight forward manuscript. Adequate detail and design. Some clarification is needed with the purpose particularly in the abstract. The Abstract AIM should be revised. Note the outcomes being measured are the VAS and NDI not the PVSTS. The PVSTS is documenting the presence or lack of a complication post sx. In the Abstract Results the VAS and NDI are not noted although they are stated in the conclusion. Enhance the introduction by adding information on the common onset and trends of post op swelling. It will provide better clarification and avoid issues when you not that you stopped assessing for swelling at 1 week post op. Informing the reader that peak swelling appears seems to typically occur at 3 days post op would be helpful. The manuscript I reviewed was missing Tables 1 and 4. These tables are essential to the manuscript and its credibility – particularly table 1. Also, include the timeframe with the tables for when the measurements were taken post op.



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### PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 33634

**Title:** Soft tissue swelling incidence using demineralized bone matrix in the outpatient setting

**Reviewer's code:** 02703806

**Reviewer's country:** India

**Science editor:** Fang-Fang Ji

**Date sent for review:** 2017-06-21

**Date reviewed:** 2017-07-08

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept
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		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

### COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

It is a well written paper. Good sample size. Concerns I have are- 1. Was a radiologist involved in radiological evaluation of post operative pre vertebral swelling and bony fusion? 2. Conclusion needs to be included after discussion, its very important.