

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



July 5, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 2461-edited.doc).

Title: Cemented Müller straight stem total hip replacement. 18 years clinical, radiological outcome.

Author: Vasileios S. Nikolaou, Demetrios Korres, Stergios Lallios, Andreas Mavrogenis, Ioannis Lazarettos, Ioannis Sourlas, Nicolas Efstathopoulos

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Orthopaedics*

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The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

(1) 1st reviewer: the paper shows a good follow up of their patients and leaves few comments to be added. table one: is there a literature citation for this definition then please refer. if not, then why are you using this definition instead a citable one from literature figure 2. citation of Gruen zones is missing some english language polishing necessary

Authors reply:

Thank you for your comments. The definition of radiolucencies around the stem comes from De Lee and Charnley. A reference has been added to the text and also the table. Again references for the Gruen zones (around stem and acetabular component) have been added to the text. A language polishing has been made.

(2) 2nd reviewer: Although it well structured paper i feel that the message of the paper is not clear. I recommend rewriting the paper and sent a certain message.

Authors reply:

We thank this reviewer for the comment. The aim and the results of this study have been made clearer by rewording the abstract and the body of the manuscript. The comments at the end of the manuscript (necessary for the brief articles) add more clarity to the message of this paper.

(3) 3rd reviewer: Paragraph 3 is it a retrospective study? This should be mentioned. Paragraph 4- It is usually not common to compare the results of THR for Osteoarthritis or AVN together with trauma and sub capital fractures. I advise the author to reconsider this issue. Paragraph 8 line 1 – forged is not correct Paragraph 11- 176 Müller straight stem , 136 women and 28 men ??? Paragraph 13- who evaluated the radiographs? Paragraph 17- again this is a retrospective evaluation? The high rate of fractures of the greater trochanter should be explained later Close reduction- closed reduction I would suggest summarizing the complications and clinical outcome in table

Authors reply:

Thank you for your comments.

- This is a retrospective review of prospectively collected data. This definition has been added to the 3rd paragraph now, as suggested.
- Indeed, in this study the vast majority of patients were diagnosed with primary osteoarthritis before surgery. A very small proportion of the study group had fracture or hip dysplasia before surgery. We believe that this doesn't affect the outcome of surgery, as in all patients exactly the same operative technique was used with no exceptions.
- Yes, as mentioned in the first paragraph of methods there were 176 *Müller straight stems implanted in 164 patients* (136 women and 28 men).
- All radiographs were evaluated by a single person, who was an experienced arthroplasty surgeon (VSN)
- In 5 patients (3.5% of hips) the greater trochanter was fractured during the intraoperative manipulations. This fracture rate can be attributed to the manipulations that are necessary during the anterolateral transgluteal approach (Watson Jones) as the patient lies supine on the OR table (figure of four leg position). This explanation has been added to the manuscript now.
- Close reduction- closed reduction. Corrected. Thank you.
- Apart from the 5 trochanteric fractures and the 3 dislocations there were no other intraoperative or early postoperative complications. The other clinical results are analysed to the results section. Repeating them into a table we believe it is not necessary. However, we can do so if you believe it is absolutely necessary.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Orthopaedics*.

Sincerely yours,

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