

Editor-in-Chief

Bao-Gan Peng, MD, PhD, Professor, Department of Spinal

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Athens, March 18, 2014

Dear Bao-Gan Peng,

Please find attached the revised paper (ESPS Manuscript NO: 8750) entitled: “FLAP RECONSTRUCTION OF THE KNEE: A REVIEW OF CURRENT CONCEPTS AND A PROPOSED ALGORITHM”.

All efforts have been made to answer the reviewer’s criticism and to comply with the present regulations of the *World Journal of Orthopedics*. The changes have been highlighted in the text.

This study has not been considered for publication elsewhere and has been read and approved by all authors.

I look forward to hearing from you soon, and I assure you for our best attention at all times.

Yours sincerely,

Andreas Gravvanis, MD, PhD, FEBOPRAS

Reviewer 00503828: *The paper is well written, and a great review. A detailed conclusion about the algorithm in Abstract is helpful.*

The following sentence has been added to the Abstract:

“Taking the published experience into account, a reconstructive algorithm is proposed according to the size and location of the wound, the presence of infection and/or 3-dimensional defect.”

And we conclude:

“With meticulous preoperative planning, by identifying the reconstructive needs and by understanding the reconstructive algorithm, the surgeon should be able to manage knee defects with high success rate. “

Reviewer 00501337: *“The present article gives an excellent overview concerning the treatment of flap reconstruction around the knee. Furthermore, a treatment algorithm is proposed which is highly important for the reader. The present manuscript should be published in its present form with only minimal changes.*

In detail: Mathes and Nahai Classification³²”

Mathes and Nahai classification is now described in details for each muscle used in knee reconstruction.

“The results concerning the success rate of flaps do not really belong to the conclusions and should be changed to the discussion.”

The results concerning the salvage rate of knee prosthesis is now moved to the section Reconstructive Algorithm.

Reviewer 02444788: *Good review – accept. Minor language polishing*
An English Editor has reviewed the manuscript.