

Dear Reviewer 1,

We are grateful for your kind consideration and appreciate the valuable recommendations for revision of our manuscript entitled “**Combined MPFL and MPTL reconstruction in recurrent patellar instability: A systematic review and meta-analysis**”. We have tried to follow all the advice and attached the responses below. We hope that these modifications are satisfactory, and we will gladly edit any further necessary changes to improve the quality of our text based on your precious insights.

Sincerely,

Mohammad Razi, MD; Professor emeritus of orthopedic surgery; President of Iranian Orthopedic Association

Scientific Quality: Grade C (Good)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Major revision

Specific Comments to Authors: Well written review , number of studies included Few suggestions Table 1 requires references to be added to each of the studies.

Many thanks for your comment. Studies are cited now.

a recent review Aicale R, Maffulli N. Combined medial patellofemoral and medial patellotibial reconstruction for patellar instability: a PRISMA systematic review. Journal of orthopaedic surgery and research 2020; 15(1) [DOI: 10.1186/s13018-020-02072-z] was done with relevant articles included the current paper has included the

article below that has 8 patients who also underwent tibial tubercle osteotomy - this would not be appropriate for this review. Ebied AM, El-Kholy W.

Many thanks for your brilliant comment. We removed the paper and performed the analysis again.

Reconstruction of the medial patello-femoral and patello-tibial ligaments for treatment of patellar instability. Knee Surgery, Sports Traumatology, Arthroscopy 2012; 20(5): 926-932 the conclusion stating that the combined procedure would be beneficial has to be made with caution. and the following 2 articles need inclusion in the current review to state that the combined procedure's benefits must be made with caution. 1. Archives of Orthopaedics Research Article <https://www.scientificarchives.com/journal/archives-of-orthopaedics> The Role of the MPFL and MPTL in Patellar Stability – A Biomechanical Study James P. Halloran<sup>1,2</sup>, Amanda O. Esquivel<sup>1</sup>, Allison M. Cracchiolo<sup>1</sup>, Chaoyang Chen<sup>1\*</sup> Stephen E. Lemos<sup>1,2\*</sup> <sup>1</sup> Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Sports Medicine, Detroit, Detroit Medical Center, Detroit, Michigan, USA <sup>2</sup>DMC Sports Medicine Orthopaedic Surgery Fellowship Program, Detroit Medical Center, Detroit, Michigan, USA \* 2. Knee Surg Sports Traumatol Arthrosc . 2021 Mar;29(3):793-799. doi: 10.1007/s00167-020-06015-3. Epub 2020 Apr 28. Isolated MPTL reconstruction fails to restore lateral patellar stability when compared to MPFL reconstruction Luiz Felipe Ambra <sup>1 2</sup>, Carlos Eduardo Franciozi <sup>3 4 5</sup>, Amy Phan <sup>6</sup>, Flavio Faloppa <sup>3</sup>, Andreas H Gomoll <sup>7</sup> the paper and the conclusion needs to convey a clear message regarding the pros and cons of the combined procedure before making a recommendation.

Many thanks. We added these references and mentioned that our conclusion stating that the combined procedure would be beneficial has to be made with caution. However, as not fulfilling the inclusion criteria of our study we could not include them in our meta-analysis.

Thank you so much for all your support in reviewing our paper. We tried to revise the paper based on your comments and a full language edition was done.