

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 Classification<sup>32</sup>”*

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.