

Dear reviewer and editor,

Thank you very much for your letter and advice. We have revised the paper and would like to resubmit it for your consideration. We have addressed the comments raised by the reviewers, and the changes are highlighted in red in the revised manuscript. We hope that the revision is acceptable, and we look forward to hearing from you soon. The responses are as follows:

Reviewer:

1. Please cite the CARE 2016 paper above in your text.

Author Response: We have now cited the CARE 2016 paper in our text.

2. Please ensure you submit your work with a Research Registry unique identifying number (UIN) as this is the first time a new surgical technique is performed.

Author Response: We have obtained new medical technology approval from the Ethics Committee and the unit at which the study was performed, and we are now applying for a Research Registry unique identifying number to carry out this technique on more patients.

3. Please ensure you also state your registration UIN in your methods section and reference it including a hyperlink to it if registration is appropriate.

Author Response: We have obtained new medical technology approval from the Ethics Committee and the unit at which the study was performed, and we are now applying for a Research Registry unique identifying number to carry out this technique on more patients.

4. On Case presentation: Do the patient had no previous medical history?

Author Response: We have clarified with the following content: "The patient had a history of internal fixation." Please see page 3 and line 29 of the revised manuscript.

5. On treatment: Please mention preoperative managements you provided for the patient .

Author Response: Thank you for your valuable suggestion. We have inserted the following sentence: **"The patient was examined before surgery and had no contraindications."** [Please see page 4 and lines 19 of the revised manuscript.](#)

6. On treatment: Please mention type of anesthesia you provided for the patient .

Author Response: We apologize for this oversight. We have inserted the following content to clarify: **"After administering epidural anesthesia..."**. [Please see page 4 and lines 19-20 of the revised manuscript.](#)

7. On outcomes and follow up: please explain how was the knee joint evaluations post-operatively?

Author Response: We have inserted the following sentence to clarify: **"The Kujala score was 95 on the left knee."** [Please see page 5 and lines 7 of the revised manuscript.](#)

8. On outcomes and follow up: Did patient develop with any knee pain, or decreased knee range of motion?

Author Response: Thank you for your valuable question. We have described the patient's knee function as follows: **"At the 4-month postoperative follow-up, the patient did not complain of pain in the left knee joint. The left knee could extend 0° and flex 120°."** [Please see page 5 and lines 5-7 of the revised manuscript.](#)

9. On outcomes and follow up: How long are you planning to follow up the patient?

Author Response: we are planning to follow up the patient for 2 years.

10. During nail extraction, is there any risk to damage the patellofemoral joint?

Author Response: Thank you for your valuable question. We have added the following content to clarify: **"Due to the use of a sleeve during surgery to protect**

important tissues within the joint, the likelihood of damage to the patellofemoral joint was greatly reduced.” Please see page 6 and lines 6-8 of the revised manuscript.

11.What are the expected complications of this method of suprapatellar nail extraction?

*Author Response:*We have added the following content to clarify: **“However, this novel approach has some potential limitations that should be noted. First, removal of the bone above the intramedullary nail may lead to possible entry of large bone fragments into the articular cavity. Second, after intramedullary nail removal, the intramedullary content entering the joint cavity may lead to joint cavity extravasation and increase the risk of infection.”** Please see page 6 and lines 9-13 of the revised manuscript.

12.Please replace “researchers” with “surgeons”.

*Author Response:*Thank you for this suggestion. We have changed “researchers” to “surgeons”. Please see page 5 and lines 22 of the revised manuscript.

13.Many examples of the beginning of sentences not spaced properly.

Author Response: We have proofread the manuscript.

Yours sincerely, Miao He

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