

Dear Reviewer,

Thank you very much for your comments and professional advice. These opinions help to improve academic rigor of our work. Based on your suggestion and request, we have made corrected modifications on the revised manuscript. Meanwhile, the manuscript had be reviewed and edited by MedE Author Service. We hope that our work can be improved again. Furthermore, we would like to show the details as follows.

Reviewer 1 #

1. The selection of indications and intraoperative precautions should be described and discussed.

Response: Thank Reviewer for this valuable feedback. We added the following sentence to the Discussion part: **‘The Ilizarov technique is used for all causes of Achilles tendon contracture. This patient is a relatively rare case of muscle fibrosis and scarring due to surgical excision following invasion of the muscle by a haemangioma. This technique may provide a new solution for foot drop due to muscle scarring from various causes or muscle necrosis due to osteofascial syndrome. Ensure that the hinges are correctly positioned during surgery. When adjusting the external fixator post-operatively, it is important to adjust the distance between the anterior and posterior bars after opening the joint gap.’** (line 178-180).

2. In addition, the follow-up period of 2 years is a little short, and should pay more attention to the observation of complications, especially osteoarthritis.

Response: Thank Reviewer for this advice. We added the following sentence to the Discussion part: **‘Follow up with regular postoperative radiographs to prevent traumatic arthritis due to anterior ankle impingement.’** (line 184-186).

We would like to thank the referee again for taking the time to review our manuscript.