

## Reviewer comments and actions taken

<b>REVIEWER 1 COMMENTS</b>	<b>Author changes</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Abstract summarize and reflect the work described in the manuscript, however presents some methodological gaps. Please try to be more concise and use separate sections: Background, Aim, Methods, Results, Conclusions.</li> <li>2. After this sentence "The fundamental principles of arthrodesis include i) adequate exposure and preparation of joint surfaces, ii) coaptation of the surfaces and iii) rigid fixation of the surfaces until union." some references are needed.</li> <li>3. This part "Rigidity of fixation is not the only parameter determining successful fusion or healing of a fracture. A balance between rigidity, compression and co-aptation is probably more important..."etc would better fits in the discussion section.</li> <li>4. Please divide the result section into: CLINICAL STUDIES and CADAVERIC AND IN VITRO STUDIES</li> <li>5. Acronym should be used all over the text</li> <li>6. At the end of the discussion, the sentence "The senior author of our study with previous experience in intraosseous fixation[8,9] is leading a study with a case series of 1st TMT joint arthrodesis using IOFIX and has encouraging preliminary results." is not relevant.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Have divided the abstract into sections as suggested.</li> <li>2. References are added.</li> <li>3. Moved to discussion section.</li> <li>4. Have divided the studies accordingly.</li> <li>5. Done.</li> <li>6. Has been removed.</li> </ol>
<b>REVIEWER 2 COMMENTS</b>	<b>Author changes</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Only one note concerns the title: which could be more focused on the topic of interest (IOFIX).</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Added to title.</li> </ol>
<b>EDITORIAL OFFICE'S COMMENTS</b>	<b>Author changes</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The self-referencing rates should be less than 10%.</li> <li>2. The "Author Contributions" section is missing.</li> <li>3. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint.</li> <li>4. Article highlights section.</li> <li>5. PMID and DOI numbers are missing in the reference</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It is less than 10 %.</li> <li>2. Added.</li> <li>3. Powerpoint with figures is attached</li> <li>4. Added.</li> <li>5. Added in all except 2 of the references. Ref no 19 is not in Pubmed. But DOI is</li> </ol>

	provided. Ref no 14 is accessed from the manufacturer's website.
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