

Aarhus, Denmark
9th Dec 2021

To the editors of WJO

Thank you for conditionally accepting our manuscript NO: 71648

“Epidemiology and incidence of paediatric orthopaedic trauma workload during the
COVID-19 pandemic – A multicenter cohort study of 3171 patients”

Running title:

Rasmussen MK et al. Paediatric orthopaedic trauma during COVID-19

We have carefully revised the manuscript. Please refer to our point by point response below.

We are looking forward to a swift editorial processing and publication of the manuscript. Thank you for inviting us to submit a manuscript for publication in WJO.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely, Jan Duedal Rölfing

Reviewer #1:

Scientific Quality: Grade C (Good)

Language Quality: Grade A (Priority publishing)

Conclusion: Accept (General priority)

Specific Comments to Authors: This is a practical retrospective multicenter cohort study. At a time when medical resources are relatively scarce, a resource re-allocation to help serve the COVID-19 patients might be possible without reducing the level of care for injury-related paediatric patients. However, in my opinion, is it possible to provide some medical advices that the guardian needs to pay attention to to reduce the occurrence of injury?

Answer:

We agree have added the following paragraph in the revised discussion:

“The significant drop in incidence of pediatric injuries during the COVID-19 pandemic may indicates that safety priority issues and the development of prevention strategies may be needed. Guardians may help children to adhere to safety recommendations at play grounds, such as a maximum of one child per trampoline. However, most pediatric musculoskeletal injuries are minor and not complicated. The impact of COVID-19 on children and young people’s mental health and well-being has been reported to weigh heavily.[19] The disruption to routines, education, recreation, as well as concern for family income and health, is leaving many young people with significant consequences due to the lock down. Furthermore, the lock down has been reported to significant decrease the level of children’s physical activity.[20] Regular physical activity is well-known to improve cardiorespiratory fitness, build strong bones and muscles, control weight, reduce symptoms of depression, and reduce the risk of developing serious health conditions.[21]”

(1) Science editor:

Specific Comments To Authors: Please add Figure Legend in your manuscript. The author has carried out multi center big data analysis, and the author has done a good job. I think the author's conclusion is more like the result, without his own views and analysis.

Scientific Quality:Grade C (Good) **Language Quality:**Grade A (Priority publishing)

Recommendation:Conditional acceptance.

ANSWER: We agree, the conclusion should in our opinion be ultrashort. The main finding of our study are the stated incidence rates. A subjective interpretation would blur these main findings and hamper the likelihood of citations.

(2) *Company editor-in-chief:*

I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, the full text of the manuscript, and the relevant ethics documents, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements of the World Journal of Orthopedics, and the manuscript is conditionally accepted.

I have sent the manuscript to the author(s) for its revision according to the Peer-Review Report, Editorial Office's comments and the Criteria for Manuscript Revision by Authors. Before its final acceptance, the author(s) must

- provide the Institutional Review Board Approval Form or Document, Signed Informed Consent Form(s) or Document(s). For example, authors from China should upload the Chinese version of the document, authors from Italy should upload the Italian version of the document, authors from Germany should upload the Deutsch version of the document, and authors from the United States and the United Kingdom should upload the English version of the document, etc. Please provide the original figure documents.

Answer: provided

- Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor.

Answer: The excel graphs have been included in a merged PowerPoint file including all 4 figures. The figure legends are stated within the manuscript.

- Authors are required to provide standard three-line tables, that is, only the top line, bottom line, and column line are displayed, while other table lines are hidden. The contents of each cell in the table should conform to the editing specifications, and the lines of each row or column of the table should be aligned. Do not use carriage returns or spaces to replace lines or vertical lines and do not segment cell content.

Answer: The two tables have been formatted as required and merged in a single docx file.

