Reviewer’s report

Title: Are Large Clinical Trials in Orthopaedic Trauma Justified?

Version: 1 Date: 03 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Michael J. Voor

Reviewer's report:
There should at least be some acknowledgement in the discussion that the differences in performance variables between sites and surgeons contribute to the overall statistical outcome differences seen between small sample sizes and larger sample sizes. For example: The early data from limited numbers and limited sites tended to show a preference in one direction (favors low pressure). That trend reversed and reverted back to midline with the addition of additional data. Is it not possible that starting the analysis with data from a different center at the smaller sample size level could very well have shown exactly the opposite initial error favoring the opposite treatment (favors high pressure)? Specifically, if the 250 patients added between enrollment of 750 and 1000 were analyzed first, the initial trend would have been for high pressure. This does not change the final conclusion, but it would further strengthen the point of this manuscript to point that out.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
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Yes
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If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**

Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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