Reviewer's report

Title: Arm Rotated Medially with Supination (the ARMS Deformity): Description of a New Clinical Entity and its Surgical Correction

Version: 2 Date: 4 June 2008

Reviewer: Jörg Bahm

Reviewer's report:

I would suggest some minor revisions:
1. the term "Mallet movements" is unclear - it certainly relates to the arm movements represented in the modified Mallet scale.
2. the discussion includes repetitions on the described strategy. SHEAR and TT surgery have already been published by the author; I would like him to reference in the discussion some other surgical strategies, like Birch’s release surgery and Özkan’s contribution on prosupination: this would enhance the value of discussing other techniques with this novel and interesting approach.
3. as the author did rather static bone corrective procedures, he should clearly state where he improved passive and/or active ROM.
4. I appreciate the author’s strategy, but so far long term results for TT surgery is lacking (the range here was 10 to 28 months). This does not diminish the value of the paper, but should be clearly outlined.

The presented ARMS association is a good clinical observation and the surgical strategy presented is logical, intended to correct a bad posture. The author could comment on the improvement of active motion and add some comments on the strategies for MRC and SD presented within the last 10 years, where he presents one further - and logic- option.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

The leading author and I share an editorial board for an internet based journal. There are no other competing interests.