Author's response to reviews

Title: Clinical and radiological outcomes after management of traumatic knee dislocation by open single stage complete reconstruction

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Submission of manuscript “Clinical and radiological outcomes after management of traumatic knee dislocation by open single stage complete reconstruction”

Dear Dr. Jiang,

please find enclosed our original article entitled “Clinical and radiological outcomes after management of traumatic knee dislocation by open single stage complete reconstruction” from the Kantonsspital Bruderholz, Dept. of Orthopaedic Surgery and Traumatology, Switzerland by Hirschmann MT, Zimmermann N, Rychen T, Candrian C, Hudetz D, Lorez LG, Mueller W and Friederich NF. We would like to submit this manuscript to your attention for possible publication in BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders.

Traumatic dislocation of the tibiofemoral joint is rare but when present it often has dramatic social and economic consequences for the patient. Dislocation inevitably results in a severe ligamentous injury because of the complex anatomy of the knee joint. Very little knowledge is available on the clinical and radiological long-term outcomes after treatment of these severe ligament injuries. The question of an optimal treatment concept has not been answered.

With this study we want to contribute to answering this question by describing 1-27 years results in patients treated by a consistent treatment strategy. In the largest consecutive long-term series of patients we meticulously analyzed the clinical and radiological outcomes of traumatic knee dislocations treated surgically in our institution according to a consistent treatment philosophy and to determine factors that predict a better or worse outcome. The treatment philosophy is based on the experience of Professor Werner Müller, one of the co-authors.
The final manuscript has been seen and approved by all authors and they have taken due care to ensure the integrity of the work. We declare that all authors have contributed to the paper and are familiar with the contents of the final draft. We hereby affirm that the submitted manuscript is our original work, has not been published or is being considered for publication elsewhere. There is no conflict of interest. Looking forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience I remain,

Best regards from Basel, Yours sincerely,

Michael T. Hirschmann, MD