Author's response to reviews

Title: Dual mobility cup reduces dislocation rate after arthroplasty for femoral neck fracture

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Author's response to reviews:

Cover letter
Dear Editor and Reviewer, thank you very much for reviewing our paper and very valuable comments.

We now edited the manuscript accordingly yours suggestions.

EDITORIAL RESPONSE:
We would like to comment the support of this study from Pfizer EU ARTICULUM Fellowship. This support was not directly from Pfizer but from foundation Pfizer EU ARTICULUM Fellowship, which supports independent research all over the world. We declare that we had no competing interest in respect to the study performed and Pfizer company. Also no drugs were investigated in the study which could have any relation with Pfizer Company.

We have added the information in Methods section that study was conducted with the approval of ethics committee of Kaunas Medical University.

REVIEWER RESPONSE:
1. We agree the distribution in head sizes in conventional THA group is a weakness of the paper. We now added this information in the results section “The analysis of dislocations in respect to the femoral head used in conventional THA groups showed that increasing head size was associated with decreasing number of dislocations. There were 6 dislocations out of the 32 THA hips with 28 mm femoral heads compared to 2 dislocations out of the 31 THA with 32 mm femoral head”. We also addressed this factor as a weakness of the manuscript in Discussion section: “That both 28mm and 32 mm heads were used in the conventional THA group may be regarded as a weakness of the paper. Larger head size in THA has been associated with decreasing dislocation rates [9] which is in concordance with our material in which the dislocation for 28 mm femoral heads was 3 times higher than for 32 mm heads. However, some surgeons may be reluctant to opt for larger head sizes considering that they have been associated with higher polyethylene wear and increased risk of aseptic loosening [10, 11].”
2. In the discussion, we also presented in the discussion section that increasing head size in metal - polyethylene articulation has been associated with increase in polyethylene wear and aseptic loosening why some surgeons may be reluctant to opt for large head sizes.

3. We found that dual articulation acetabular components had a lower dislocation rate than conventional THA (with a mix of 28 and 32mm heads) when used with posterior approach for femoral neck fractures. It is probable that this would also be true if using a different approach although we can’t state that. We have changed the conclusion so that it more clearly reflects our findings.

We hope our changes have improved the manuscript.

Thank you very much and very best regards,

Authors