Reviewer's report

Title: Temporomandibular joint disc repositioning using anchor: an effective method to treat internal derangement in stage to

Version: 4 Date: 14 December 2009

Reviewer: Andrew J Sidebottom

Reviewer's report:

This is a well written and researched report of a modification of a commonly used technique for repositioning the disc in the TMJ. The authors do not well define the patients for whom the technique would be used as simply a displaced disc with MRI findings is not an indication for surgery, the patients additionally needing to have symptoms of pain and or restriction. Additionally many authors would still recommend initial management with arthroscopic lysis and lavage, prior to considering open joint surgery. There is also considerable controversy in the management of disc repositioning surgery at all, with significant evidence of a recurrence of symptoms after a few years and indeed the authors state that they would want to assess the long-term outcome presumably for this reason - which I believe they should state. There is no mention of how they assessed the outcome as excellent or good and this needs to be defined. They also mention that a number of cases required modification of the condyle in addition. This makes the group non-homogenous as a condylar shave is a separate procedure. The authors should state how many required condylar adjustment and place these cases in a separate group.

Once these initial modifications are complete the article will need to be reassessed prior to publication.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests