Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Torsional stability of interference screws derived from bovine bone - a biomechanical study

**Version:** 5  **Date:** 20 January 2010

**Reviewer:** Mirco Herbort

**Reviewer’s report:**

**Introduction:**
1. The authors correctly introduce their questions in their introduction. But one or two hypotheses for a right scientific study are missing.
2. Please phrase for each question of your study one hypothesis. Please add a description why you were investigating both questions and formulate a connection between both questions.

Page 3:
3. “common reason for transplanz”**: transplant

4. The most common method for graft fixation is interference screw fixation. : reference missing!

5. Last two sentence of the introduction: Please discuss in Discussion!
   At the end of Introduction: Formulate hypotheses!

**Material and methods:**
6. Of each type of interference screw 5 pieces were tested. : One example: Please proof syntax and language form.

7. 5 pieces: This is even for a biomechanical testing protocol a very small amount of specimens. Did you do a power analysis?

**Statistical evaluation:**
8. Multivariate analysis is completely missing. In my opinion you have to do an ANOVA. Please add a sufficient statistical evaluation!

9. What is the breaking torque: Is that maximum torque or do you mean yield torque?
   Please give a right biomechanical explanation of the parameters you have been investigated.

**Results:**
10. Are there any significant differences? Please point out significant and not significant differences. For that you need a right statistic and an adequate
amount of specimens.

Discussion:

11. Please formulate hypotheses and discuss the results after adequate statistical evaluation.


13. In most cases bioabsorbable screws have screwdriver holes that run the entire length of the screw.

14. Porcine specimens: Is the bone density comparable? Please quote references for that.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests