Reviewer's report

Title: Navigation of TKA: Rotation of components and clinical results in a prospectively randomized study

Version: 3 Date: 25 August 2010

Reviewer: Denis Brunt

Reviewer's report:

This paper investigates the use of navigation in the placement of TKA components. There are some grammatical issues throughout the paper which require editorial proofing. It would help if authors were requested to provide line numbers. The pages of this submission are not even numbered.

Introduction and Methods

In the last sentence of the background you refer to the use of CT scans as a secondary objective of the paper. Should this be included in the title? (discretionary revision)

In the methods you refer to ap view and postop without explanation of the abreviation. What is ‘merchant’ view? (compulsory revision)

There are 2 to 3 paragraphs describing views, axis and the navigation system. It would help if these methods were supported by figures.(discretionary revision)

Results

Many of the results are not significant at post-op, 12 weeks and one year or within femoral and tibial angles angles. There is no need to provide group means. Provide overall means and variability with a statement of non-significance. Table 3 may not be necessary. (discretionary revision)

The titles to the Tables are typically presented above the tables and not on a separate page. Within the tables there is not an explanation of, for example, the asteriks in Table 2 and 4.(compulsory revision)

Discussion (the discussion needs compulsory reorganisation)

The discussion will be fine with some reworking. I have the following comments:

The first seven paragraphs are primarily a repeat of the results with little or no discussion.

The discussion appears disjointed with no logical flow. In some instances there are small or independant paragraphs.

There is a tendency to report differences between studies but with no explanation as to why these differences occur.
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