Author's response to reviews

Title: Displaced midshaft fractures of the clavicle: non-operative treatment versus plate fixation (Sleutel-TRIAL). A multicentre Randomised Controlled Trial.

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Version: 2 Date: 2 August 2011

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To: BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders

Leiden, August 2nd, 2011

Dear editors,

Herewith we present the revised study protocol “Displaced midshaft fractures of the clavicle: non-operative treatment versus plate fixation (Sleutel-TRIAL). A multicentre Randomised Controlled Trial.” for publication in BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders.

We would like to thank the editor and referee for reviewing the manuscript. Their comments and suggestions have been very helpful. As advised by the reviewer, we adjusted the primary endpoint of symptomatic non-union to non-union. Secondly, we added that a radiologist as well as two surgeons will independently adjudicate the X-rays. This is already practised in the first 37 enrolled patients.

As suggested we changed the Competing Interests paragraph with the reference to the non-profit health insurance company in the Netherlands that funded part of this study. They have no financially gain by publishing this manuscript or implementation of this study.

We hope that you will consider our protocol for publication in your journal and look forward to your response.

With kind regards,

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