Reviewer's report

Title: Anterior cervical discectomy and fusion: Comparison of titanium and polyetheretherketone cages

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Reviewer: Ilker Eyupoglu

Reviewer's report:

Many thanks for the opportunity to review the manuscript. The authors compare the results of spine surgeries using PEEK cages in one group and Titanium cages in the other. Their results indicate that both cages show equally good results with negligible cage sintering. The manuscript is excellent from the clinical point of view, and address a fundamental question faced on an almost daily basis by the clinically active neurosurgeon. However, I feel three points need to be addressed more thoroughly in order to further raise the level of the article:

1) Although cage sintering is measured in relation to the height of the intervertebral disc space in current literature, this method has disadvantages placing its validity in question. The advantages and disadvantages of this method ought to be therefore more thoroughly discussed.

2) Although both filled and empty cages are routinely used in clinical practice, standards have yet to be defined in this regard. This point merits mention and discussion.

3) The point of view of the authors with regard to plating versus soft cervical collar for several weeks following surgery ought to be mentioned and the respective advantages and disadvantages of both methods be discussed.

I would consider this manuscript all in all well written and would recommend acceptance of the article for publication following incorporation of the above mentioned points.

Best regards.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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.