Reviewer's report

Title: Arthroscopic guided biopsy and radiofrequency thermoablation of a benign neoplasm of the tibial spines area: a treatment option

Version: 2 Date: 19 September 2011

Reviewer: Sheila Chou

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Discretionary Revisions:

1. The description of the complication that occurred as a result of the high pressure from the arthroscopy pump is a little unclear to me. The article stated that ‘the high pressure from the arthroscopy’s water pump broke the joint surface and created a communication to the tunnel used for the procedure”. I am unclear as to whether this is referring to the arthroscopic tunnel through the joint capsule versus the tunnel through the bone related to insertion of the RFA probe. Please clarify.

2. The article stated that “CT guidance does not allow for control the cartilage (Note: grammar incorrect – minor essential revision) that is possible with the arthroscopic procedure described here...”. Please clarify what is meant by “control the cartilage” since this is the reason proposed by the article as to why the arthroscopic RT may be better than CT-guided RT. It may be helpful to discuss the potential benefits of arthroscopic RT a little further since image guided RFA in bone is the more commonly performed procedure.

3. It may be of some interest to know which type of RFA probe was used to perform the procedure (eg. Linear, multi-tined probe etc.).

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.