Reviewer’s report

Title: The Ilizarov external fixator - a useful alternative for the treatment of proximal tibial fractures A prospective observational study of 30 consecutive patients

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Reviewer: markus Kuster

Reviewer’s report:

The authors present the the general use of Ilizarov external fixateur for all categories of Tibia Plateau fractures. It is a prospectice study with 30 patients. This paper is interresting and extends the use of external fixateur beyond the high energy trauma, where it is normally used.
The introduction is well written, clear and concise.
Methods is clear and well written.
They used the femoral extension in 16 out of 19 Tpe V and VI fractures. What were the criteria not to use an extension in the remaing 3?
In the discussion the authors state that they used the femoral extension in 15 patients. What is correct?
The discussion is to long and should be shortened. 76 references are too many.
I would like to see an example x-ray.
Otherwise the paper is interresting and should be published

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 have designed and invented a plate used for tibia plateau fractures.