Reviewer’s report

Title: Factors Influencing Decision Making in Orthopedic Surgery - an international online survey of 1147 orthopedic surgeons

Version: 3 Date: 10 July 2012

Reviewer: Caroline Hing

Reviewer’s report:

An interesting study that deserves publication.

- Discretionary Revisions

A power analysis could be included. The authors have mentioned low response rate as a weakness in their study but this study could also be viewed as a 'convenience sample'.

The authors should compare demographics of responders to non-responders to ensure that the groups are the same (e.g. were non-responders non-English speakers which would explain the non-response)

Language bias should be mentioned as most literature and meetings are in English and this may also bias response to the survey and how surgeons handle information sent to them

Why were some questionnaires returned only partially completed? Was this a weakness in the design of the electronic version?

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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