Reviewer's report

Title: Subcutaneous internal anterior pelvic ring fixation versus external pelvic ring fixation - a biomechanical study

Version: 1 Date: 26 June 2013

Reviewer: Joerg Boehme

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revisions:
1. The two systems differ in the diameter of pins and rods which were used. How these different parameters affect the stability the authors did not discussed.
2. Testing the external fixator the common cross sections between rods were not used. However, it is well known that cross sections lead to an increased stability in a length dependent manner.
3. The authors did not analyzed pelvises from body donators with real fractures. In consideration, they are not able to prefer any option because they only determined material parameters of the systems and accompanying factors are underestimated.
4. Discussion: it is not clear, why the presented internal fixateur might facilitate laparotomies. In our opinion there are enhanced perils to injury vessels, nerves and hollow organs (e.g. urinary bladder).

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.