Author's response to reviews

Title: Preoperative Planning of Calcium Deposit Removal in Calcifying Tendinitis of the Rotator Cuff - Possible Contribution of Computed Tomography, Ultrasound and Conventional X-Ray

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

The following revisions have been performed.

Abstract:

Methods: Change first line to “US, CX and CT imaging was performed pre-operatively in 151 patients who underwent arthroscopic removal of CDs in the rotator cuff.”

Response: Was changed within the manuscript

Results:
First line: Use the abbreviations US, CX and CT.

Response: Was changed within the manuscript

The text in the results section should be more tightly coupled to the stated purpose. What is the accuracy of US, CT and CX for estimating total count, localization, morphology and consistency of CDs respectively? These numbers are missing in the results.

Response: Paragraph was changed into: Using US 158 CDs, using CT 188 CDs and using CX 164 CDs were identified. Reliable localization of the CDs was possible with all used diagnostic modalities. CT revealed 49% of the CDs to be septated, out of which 85% were uni- and 15% multiseptated. CX was not suitable for prediction of CDs consistency. US reliably predicted viscous-solid CDs consistency only when presenting with full sound extinction (PPV 84.6%) . CT had high positive and negative predictive values for detection of liquid-soft (PPV 92.9%) and viscous-solid (PPV 87.8%) CDs.

Main Body:
1. It is recommended that Background be replaced with Introduction.

Response: Was changed within the manuscript

2. Line 59-60, and elsewhere in the manuscript. Please define what “liquid-soft” means and use this consistently throughout. In the results, sometimes “soft-liquid” is used (e.g., Line 166, 168). Is that different or the same” The term “vicious-solid” seems to be a typographic error. Did the authors mean “viscous-solid”? If so, replace throughout the manuscript and define the term in the Introduction.

Response: Was changed within the manuscript and terms defined within the Introduction.

Liquid-soft CDs consist of snowflake like carbonate apatite in a clear liquid. Viscous-solid CDs have higher concentration of carbonate apatite and less liquids presenting like “toothpaste” after opening.

3. Line 63: Replace “Above this the knowledge “ to “In addition, the knowledge””
4. Line 64: “Carbonatapatite” is not a common term in English language usage. Please replace with “carbonate apatite” throughout the manuscript.

5. Line 66: Change to “computed tomography to add”

6. Line 72: Replace “thoroughgoing” with “thorough”.

7. Line 78: Remove “treated”

8. Line 81: Change to “patients who failed to”

9. Subsection on Ultrasound: The tense in this subsection is different from the rest of the Methods section. Please use consistent tense throughout. Eg., Line 86: Change to “All patients were investigated”

10. Line 93: The figure caption for the ultrasound images need to clarify where the sound extinction is being visualized. In general, this figure is not very helpful unless more descriptive labels are added. The authors should consider adding more ultrasound images that show the presence and absence of sound extinction.

The caption was changed into:

Figure 1 Conventional X-rays (a+b), ultrasound (c) and computed tomography (d-e) of the same patient suffering a calcifying tendinitis of the rotator cuff. The Ultrasound image of the patient presented with full sound extinction. Underneath (e) a CD without sound extinction is shown.

A picture showing a CD without sound extinction was introduced as the both ultrasound pictures have been labeled.

11. Line 156: Instead of fourfold table, it is more common to say 2x2 table

12. Line 164: The word “planed” seems to be a typographic error.

13. Line 176: In Figure 3, please denote in the figure caption or a legend what the colors mean.

Response: Figure 3 was reworked and captations, too. Both carry this information now.


Response: References have been introduced.

15. Line 218: “view studies” seems to be a typographic error. Do the authors mean “few studies”?

Response: Was changed within the manuscript

16. Line 235: Insert a comma: “In the present study, prediction “. Similar sentence
constructions exist throughout the manuscript, and a comma needs to be inserted after the first clause. Please correct.
Response: Was changed within the manuscript

17. Line 247: Avoid starting a sentence with “And”. Please combine these two sentences.
Response: Was changed within the manuscript

Response: Was changed within the manuscript

19. Line 258-260: This sentence is not comprehensible without punctuation. Please use commas in appropriate places.
Response: Was changed within the manuscript

20. Line 260: Correct spelling of useful has only one l.
Response: Was changed within the manuscript

21. In a number of places in the manuscript, words are capitalized for no reason. For example, Line 263: Consistency should not start with a capital C; Line 270: Scans should not start with a capital S; Line 274: Exclusions should not start with a capital E. More examples are in the figure legends. Please check the manuscript and correct this throughout.
Response: Was changed within the manuscript

22. Line 366: Change to “and according to”.
Response: Was changed within the manuscript

23. Line 367: The word “stadium” seems to be a typographic error. Please change to “classification” or “criteria”.
Response: Was changed within the manuscript

Response: Was changed within the manuscript