Reviewer's report

Title: Magnetic Resonance Imaging in Diagnosis of Anterior Cruciate Ligament rupture

Version: 1 Date: 13 October 2003

Reviewer: Thomas L Pope

Reviewer's report:

General
1. Prospective aticle comparing the MR reports to arthroscopy in 48 patients with ACL injury.
2. Well conceived study.
3. Authors assert that partial ACL injury prior to arthroscopy is important as the treatment is different.
4. Prospective nature of the study makes it more relevant than retrospective analyses.
5. Surgeon bias was present if he/she knew the MR findings before arthroscopy.
6. Arthroscopy is the only "gold standard"...but the only one that could have been used in this case.
7. Conclusions appear justified by the data

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
1. Were the MR findings available to the surgeon prior to arthroscopy. If so, there may have been some bias.
2. Confirmation of the arthroscopy findings by a second arthroscopist reviewing the videotapes without knowledge of the first surgeon's conclusions would improve the use of this technique as the "gold standard."

Minor Compulsory Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)
1. Copy editor should clean up some of the English.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
None

What next?: Accept after minor compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its specialized field or of broad interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
None