Reviewer's report

Title: Factors influencing the length of the incision and the operating time for total thyroidectomy: a prospective survey

Version: 2 Date: 28 February 2012

Reviewer: Gerhard Wolf

Reviewer's report:

This article poses some interesting questions. After introduction of MIVAT, the scar length has become one of the main issues in thyroidectomy. More experience in this method has led to declining importance of that feature. Here, some important co-factors in decision-making have been investigated and were thoroughly prepared. The data are profoundly acquired, profound statistical methods are used and ,-even if there are no clear-cut- recommendations or conclusions-, show an innovative view on the important topic of cosmetically relevant surgical decisions.

The paper is recommended for publication.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I do not have any competing interest on that topic