Reviewer’s report

Title: Risk factors for early recurrence after inguinal hernia repair

Version: 1 Date: 4 August 2009

Reviewer: Hannu Paajanen

Reviewer’s report:

Minor essential revisions:

1. Title: why only "2 first authors equally contributed to this work?" Delete this.

2. You report some important risk factors for recurrent hernias. These are important, but operative data at primary operation should also be included. Especially, delayed wound healing (hemorrhage, bacterial infection) might be related to later recurrence?? This should be analysed as well, and included in the results. (it was good that you included diabetes!).

3. What about BMI in relation to recurrence? Some discussion or data of obesity should be included (ann surg 2008;247:1064, am j epidemiol 2007;165:1154).


5. Discussion, page 6, line 6. "We suggest that a sufficient wound healing..." Delete this unless you provide data of wound healing at primary operation.

Figures and Tables are clear. This is a solid, interesting study which further suggests that genetic factors are important for inguinal hernia recurrence.

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 declare that I have no competing interests’