Author's response to reviews

Title: ORCHID: Open reduction and internal fixation versus casting for highly comminuted intra-articular fractures of the distal radius - A randomized clinical multi-center trial A randomized clinical multi-center trial

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Author's response to reviews:

Cover letter - 15.1.2011:

Dear Dr. Goldsmith,

we thank you for the detailed comments and the suggestions for improvement.

We revised the manuscript according to the reviewer`s report.

Table 2 is now included in the manuscript; the figures uploaded last time remain the same.

Point-by-point answer to the comments:

Title: the words `in elderly patients` have been deleted

1. The pages of the revised protocol were numbered from 1 to 28.

revised

2. P(age) 3, p(aragraph) 2, l(ine) 3. Insert a space between [>] and [65].

revised

3. P 3, p 2, l 10. Add an [h] to read [health-economic].

revised
4. P 3, p 4, l 1. Making a claim that you are first is rather bold when there were no methods for a comprehensive literature search. It would be better to tone it down to something like: [As far as we are aware, ORCHID is the first...]. Also, P 13, p 8, l 1.

revised, toned down in both two points

5. P 3, p 5, l 1. Insert the date of registration and the date the first patient was randomized.

both informations now included


revised


reference now provided

8. P 5, p 4. Delete [and statistically significant]. One can state that a hypothesis is statistically significant; however, the phrase is not part of the hypothesis.

revised - deleted

9. P 6, p 2, l 4,5. What if there is disagreement?

revised - explanation given


revised

11. P 6, p 5, l 2. Rewrite as [BMI > 35 kg/m2 ]

revised

12. P 7, p 7, l 3. Provide the viewpoints that the economic analyses will be from.

viewpoint given now

13. P 9, p 7. Table 2 was not included in my printed copy. Please provide it.
Table 2 included in the text now

14. P 10, p 2, l 1. Replace [parameter] by [variable]. A parameter is a characteristic of distribution of a variable in a population, not another name for a variable in a sample. Also, P 10, p 6, l 1. Also, P 11, p 5, l 2.

all points revised as mentioned by the reviewer


reference given now


revised

17. P 12, p 2, l 5. Replace [principle] by [principal].

revised

18. P 12, p 3, l 11. Since [or] logically includes [and], drop [and/].

revised

19. P 12, p 5, l 3,4. Provide references to GCP and DH.

references provided


reference provided

21. P 15, box, row 1, column 1, l 1. Add an [s] to [Investigators] since there are 2.

A random sample of references was checked for accuracy. This reviewer thinks that the issue number helps to find the article faster when searching for it.

comment: references are revised as mentioned by the reviewer

- we did not include the issues in parentheses in the reference, as this was not done in all articles published in Trials that we looked up.

22. P 16, R(eference) 1, l 2. Insert [(3)] after [52].
25. P 17, R 15, I 2. Insert [(3)] after [30].
26. P 17, R 17, I 3. Insert [(5)] after [35].
27. P 17, R 20, I 3. Insert [(3)] after [34].
28. P 17, R 21, I 3. The journal name is [J Trauma Injury, Infection & Critical Care], and insert [(1)] after [55].
30. P 18, R 28, I 4. Insert [(2)] after [31].
31. P 18, R 36, I 3. Insert [(3)] after [31].

22 to 31:
revised - see also comment above

Sincerely,

Christoph Bartl on behalf of the ORCHID authors