Author's response to reviews

Title: Autologous Bone Graft versus Demineralized Bone Matrix in Internal Fixation of Ununited Long Bones

Authors:

Oliver Pieske MD (Oliver.Pieske@med.uni-muenchen.de)
Alexandra Wittmann MD (Alexandra.Wittmann@med.uni-muenchen.de)
Johannes Zaspel MD (Johannes.Zaspel@med.uni-muenchen.de)
Thomas Loeffler MD (Thomas.Loeffler@med.uni-muenchen.de)
Bianca Rubenbauer MD (Bianca.Rubenbauer@med.uni-muenchen.de)
Heiko Trentzsch MD (Heiko.Trentzsch@med.uni-muenchen.de)
Stefan Piltz PhD (Stefan.Piltz@med.uni-muenchen.de)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Professor Axel Ekkernkamp
Dept. of Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgery
Unfallkrankenhaus Berlin and
University of Greifswald
Germany

MS: 1844868734278772 - Autologous Bone Graft versus Demineralized Bone Matrix in Internal Fixation of Ununited Long Bones

Dear Editor:

The Trauma-Surgery Department of the Ludwig-Maximilians-University is proud about your confirmation to publish the study entitled „Autologous Bone Graft versus Demineralized Bone Matrix in Internal Fixation of Ununited Long Bone” in the The Journal of Trauma Management & Outcomes. In the following we address the comment made by the reviewer point by point:

Referee’s Comment:

In the Conclusion section the sentence beginning on line 13 with the word "Moreover," contains the term "morbid patients" in line 14. It may be better to describe the patients as having significant comorbidities.
One of the core messages of the paper focuses to the fact that there are no major clinical outcome-differences in patients suffering from ununited fractures of long bones which were operated with ORIF combined either by the use of bone graft (autograft) or by the use of demineralized bone matrix graft (allograft).

Since allografts are more cost-intensive compared to autograft we do not recommend the general use of allografts in non-union surgery. Nevertheless, with the use of allografts the duration and extension of surgery can be reduced. Thus we recommend using allografts like demineralized bone matrix in patients having significant comorbidities to minimize the perioperative risk.

Based on the reviewer’s comment we revised the manuscript sentence in the Conclusions section beginning on line 13 as followed:

“Moreover, we recommend non-union treatment with ORIF and augmentation with allografts first in patients suffering from significant comorbidities in order to reduce operative time and perioperative donor site complications, and second in patients with known osteopenia/osteoporosis and therefore limited availability of cancellous bone for autologous grafting.”

We hope that we addressed the reviewer’s comments sufficiently and are looking forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

Oliver Pieske, MD