Reviewer's report

Title: Management of degenerative rotator cuff tears: a review of the literature

Version: 1 Date: 12 January 2012

Reviewer number: 2

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This is an interesting review article that described the epidemiology and management of degenerative rotator cuff tears.

1) However, there were only 40 articles in this review. Reconsider the articles in the base data.

   What is a base data? What was a source of journals in this review (Pubmed etc.)?

   What kind of journal was included? What was the level of evidence of each article? Level 1-3 study is more scientific than Level4-6 study.

   The authors should not include the review articles because present study is a review article.

2) Introduction

   Write the purpose of this study.

3) Please make session of diagnosis that includes physical examination and diagnostic tests and imaging study.

4) A suggested approach to management of a rotator cuff tear

   The effect of tear size and age on the outcome of conservative treatment should be discussed.

5) Figure 4 Lateral anchor may be knotless anchor. Remake the figure.

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.