Reviewer's report

Title: Digital Anatomical Measurements of Safe Screw Placement at Superior Border of the Arcuate Line for Acetabular Fractures

Version: 3 Date: 6 December 2014

Reviewer: Yi-xin CHEN

Reviewer's report:

The authors investigated the safe and effective screw angles and depths in reconstructed CT images, aiming to provide reference for the plate-screw fixation of anterior column of acetabulum. This is an interesting study whose findings are important. However, there are several questions as listed below.

Major compulsory revisions:

1. The authors selected five acetabular sections to perform subsequent measurements. Among these sections, as shown in Fig.1, section 1 and section 5 seemed to defined according to the so-called optimal ball instead of the acetabulum, and therefore have nothing to do with the hip joint. This was different from the other studies. The authors should further clarify this point.

2. In this study, the entry points of the screws were defined at the superior cortical surface 5 mm lateral to the pelvic brim. Is there any clinical relevance for the authors to choose the distance of 5 mm?

Minor essential revisions:

1. There were numerous typos and grammar mistakes in the manuscript.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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.