Reviewer’s report

Title: The design evolution of Interbody Cages in Anterior Cervical Discectomy and Fusion

Version: 2 Date: 28 December 2014

Reviewer: Jiaming Liu

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory Revisions

The author presents a systematic review examining the historical progress of implant designs and performance, as well as an update on the currently available designs and the potential future of cervical interbody implants. It's an interesting topic. However, there are some comments for the author:

1. “Keywords”: “Anterior Cervical Discectomy Fusion” is duplicate with “ACDF”, please delete one of them.
2. “Background”: in this section, the author used many sentences to introduce “ACDF”. The author should focus on the interbody cage, and used more sentences to introduce “cage design”.
3. “Methods”: the author just only used one word “cervical fusion implant design” to search the related articles. Is it really enough? Are there any useful articles missed?
4. “Results”: this section is too simple. The “inclusion criteria” and ‘exclusion criteria” are not clear. The process of the article selection did not introduction. No information is described about the included articles.
5. “Discussion”: in this section, the author should introduce the advantage and disadvantage of different cage devices. However, some of them are not clear.

The section “anterior plating” is not important in this article. The emphasis of the article is cage device, so some contents of the section could be deleted.

The author gave some introductions about the future design of the interbody cage. However, there were no some views or opinions of the author self. No limitation of the article was described in the article.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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