Reviewer's report

Title: The effect of osteoarthritis on functional outcome following hemiarthroplasty for femoral neck fracture: a prospective observational study

Version: 2 Date: 23 April 2015

Reviewer: Nan Jiang

Reviewer's report:

This prospective study investigated clinical efficacy of conducting hemiarthroplasty in patients with pre-existing hip osteoarthritis. Outcomes suggest pre-existing osteoarthritis may be not a contraindication to hemiarthroplasty in elderly patients with femoral neck fracture. Overall, this manuscript designed and written well.

Major revisions:
1. In the methods section, the authors should give detailed information regarding inclusion and/or exclusion criteria of the investigation.
2. If possible, I would like to suggest the authors add case report regarding one to two cases of grade 3 to 4 of Kellgren and Lawrence classification with complete follow up outcomes as well as radiographic data in the results section.
3. In the limitation of the discussion section, just as the authors stated, the follow-up time is too short. I would suggest using "short-term" rather than "mid-term" for expression of the outcomes. Additionally, it should also be noted that at 12-month follow-up time, only 13 patients left in the group of grade 3 to 4 of Kellgren and Lawrence classification. Therefore, it is recommended that authors should also mention this limitation, as limited sample size may also affect the outcomes.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests