Reviewer’s report

Title: Locking Compression Plate distal ulna hook plate fixation Versus Intramedullary Screw fixation for displaced avulsion Fifth Metatarsal Base Fractures: a comparative retrospective cohort study

Version: 0 Date: 08 Aug 2017

Reviewer: John Albright

Reviewer's report:

This is a case series of 43 patients with a particular type fifth proximal fifth metatarsal fracture where the pull of the peroneal tendons play a major role. It is known that this type of fracture presents a difficult situation for the usual screw fixation. The authors report 18 cases of fixation using a locking compression plate - distal ulna hook for a novel approach and compared to 25 cases with the standard intramedullary fixation. The patients were followed up at intervals over the first 12 months. While the numbers are small comparisons of the AOFAS mid-foot functional outcome scores appear to be different between the two groups for both functional and performance and surgical time required.

Specific Comments:

Abstract Methods Line 8: Did you mean 3, 6, 9, & 12 weeks or did you mean 3, 6, 9, & 12 months as stated later?

Abstract Results Line 7: Given your statement about a significant p value it would be best for the purposes of future meta-analysis that you include some sort of data table that basically lists all 42 patients with their scores at the end of 3, 6, 9, & 12 months.

Page 2 Materials and Methods: Please provide time frame that it took to collect 42 patients with this fracture.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes
Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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