Reviewer’s report

Title: Posterior shoulder dislocation with associated reverse Hill-Sachs lesion: treatment options and functional outcome after a 5-year follow up

Version: 0 Date: 21 Aug 2017

Reviewer: Simon Frostick

Reviewer's report:

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Overall I am happy with the paper. An algorithm for the treatment of the uncommon traumatic posterior dislocation is very useful but as the authors state the actual method is still controversial. This paper does not really help to address the controversy as the numbers are small in this case series. This is not a pathology that can be subject to a "proper" clinical trial of treatment methods as there are too many variables that cannot be controlled and the numbers to achieve statistical significance would be large.

I would like the authors to out the prevalence of traumatic posterior dislocation in the context of posterior dislocation in a more general sense. In specialist clinics patients with a posterior dislocation are actually not that uncommon but most are related to polar type II or II (or combination) type instability. Further, even though traumatic posterior dislocation are still missed far too often a careful clinical examination (lack of external rotation is a patient with a history of a shoulder injury) together with adequate radiographs will give the diagnosis is the majority of cases. I agree that a CT should be obtained in ALL cases to properly plan the intervention.

This paper shows an improvement in scores in the patients that are reviewed. These "statistically" significant results are not generalisable. The series is to small to comment about better results or not from a particular method. When writing a paper such as this we must be careful about the ability of colleagues to misinterpret the data. Most will only read the abstract. The conclusion made in the abstract is very acceptable.
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.

No

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

Yes

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I am able to assess the statistics

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