Reviewer's report

Title: Morphological characteristics of the posterior malleolar fragment according to ankle fracture patterns: a computed tomography-based study

Version: 0 Date: 28 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Benedikt Schliemann

Reviewer's report:

Dear authors,

thank you for conducting this interesting study.

Although the role of the posterior malleolar fragment is already well understood, your work contributes interesting aspects of different morphology of the fragment depending on the mechanism of the injury.

Basically, the manuscript is well written. However, some minor errors in language and grammar have to be erased.

The methods including statistics seem to be appropriate.

The results including tables and legends are clearly represented.

However, in the discussion section, the clinical relevance of your study should be further clarified. You only wrote "Therefore, the differences of morphological characteristics of the PMF by direction force may be clinically relevant to the different methods for fixation of PMF". Which different methods of fixations would you use in PMF associated with PER compared with those associated with PER. Do all types of fractures require fixation or do you decide on the basis of your measurements whether to fix or not to fix the PMF? It is interesting to know that different mechanisms of injury lead to different morphologies of the PMF but how does that relate to your Treatment strategy. Maybe you can further illustrate that issue.

Otherwise, I do not have any major complaints.

Thank you again for that interesting work.
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:

Acceptable

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