Reviewer's report

Title: Nordic Innovative Trial to Evaluate Osteoporotic Fractures (NITEP-group): Non operative treatment versus surgery with volar locking plate in the treatment of distal radius fracture in patients aged 65 and over - a study protocol for a prospective, randomized controlled trial

Version: 0 Date: 10 Dec 2017

Reviewer: Niels Schep

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the article BMSD-D-17-01169. The authors describe a RCT comparing ORIF with a volar locking plate versus conservative treatment in patient over 65 year with a distal radius fracture. This is a very valuable subject and subject of other studies like the Dart study [https://dartstudie.nl/]. I feel this is a well described study on a very important topic. However, I have some minor concerns stated below mainly focussing on the methods.

Abstract no comment

Introduction: I feel the introduction is rather long can the authors shorten this section?

Methods:

Line 225 Can the authors be more specific about the inclusion criteria. Do they include Type A an type C fractures? While in my opinion there is a clinical difference between these fractures. Therefore analysis should be separated or a choice has to be made on which fractures are included in the study.

Why do the authors think a step of of more than 2mm millimetres may be clinical relevant for inclusion?

Why is ulnar variance and radial inclination not included?

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

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?
2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?
3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?
4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?
5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?
6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?
If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal

Do you want to get recognition for reviewing this manuscript?

Add a record of this review to Publons to track and showcase your reviewing expertise across the world’s journals. Signing up is quick, easy and free!

No