Reviewer’s report

Title: Efficacy of internal fixation with mini plate and internal fixation with hollow screw for Regan-Morrey type II and III ulna coronoid fractures

Version: 0 Date: 27 Mar 2018

Reviewer: Dafang Zhang

Reviewer’s report:

General Comments:

1. Please specify at the start of the Methods who these patients were collected. Was this a retrospective study? Were patients collected by querying a billing database or was there an independent hospital database?

2. How was intraoperative blood loss measured? Was this based on surgeon estimation? Anesthesiologist estimation? Please specify.

3. What was the endpoint for determining time to union? Was union judged clinically, by x-ray, by CT? Please specify.

4. What was the mean follow-up time? Please provide time range of follow-up for this cohort.

5. Did the authors have issues with postoperative nerve palsies? How did the authors protect the ulnar nerve?

6. In the Discussion, the authors discuss fixation methods for a variety of injuries around the body (terrible triads, metacarpals, distal tibia, calcaneus, Lisfranc). I do not think this discussion adds value to their message. Whether a certain method of fixation works well in one of these body parts really does not necessarily extrapolate to the coronoid. It is a non sequitur to suggest that because MIPO plating works well in the distal tibia, it must work well for coronoid fractures. I would suggest removing this paragraph from the discussion, because I think it distracts readers from the message of this paper.

7. This paper was well-organized, and has a straightforward message. Throughout the paper, there is room for improvement in terms of English grammar. Thank you for this interesting submission.

Specific Comments:

1. Page 2, line 33: Change to "average blood loss"
2. Page 2, line 36: Omit "while had notably"

3. Page 2, lines 38 & 43: Change "excellent and good rate" to "excellent and good functional outcomes"

4. Page 3, line 2: Change to "The coronoid process of the ulna plays a pivotal role in ulnohumeral joint stability and is regarded as a stabilizer against…"

5. Page 3, line 4: Change to "Coronoid fractures, uncommon injuries occurring in about 2% to 15% of elbow dislocations, can be important to ulnohumeral stability."


7. Page 3, line 38: Please qualify or omit this sentence. Coronoid fractures can be successfully treated nonoperatively in some cases, for example a minimally displaced fracture with a stable elbow joint.

8. Page 5, line 23: Change to "An anterior approach to the elbow joint was made."

9. Page 5, line 37: Change to "After reduction of the fracture, the coronoid was fixed with…"

10. Page 5, line 52: Change to "blood loss"

11. Page 5, line 59: Change to "This score is out of 100 points, …"

12. Page 6, line 35: I am not sure what it meant by "P is a bilateral probability." Does this mean a two-tailed p-value was used?

13. Page 6, line 60: Change to "...cause of injury, laterality of injury, and presence of combined injury..." Please also change Table 1 to say laterality instead of location.

14. Page 8, line 48: Omit "are not isolated injuries"

15. Page 8, line 51: Change "each" to "per"

16. Page 9, line 8: Change "hollow plate" to "hollow screw"

17. Page 9, line 25: Omit the sentences about metacarpal fractures. This is off-topic.

18. Page 9, line 38: Please omit this sentence and reference 26. This reference pertains to canine elbows. Consider omitting this statement that pain is decreased after surgery, unless you can provide a supporting reference.
19. Table 5: Change table title, since the table refers to more than just complications.

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

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Needs some language corrections before being published

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