Author’s response to reviews

Title: Preoperative radiographic and clinical factors associated with postoperative floating of the lesser toes after resection arthroplasty for rheumatoid foot deformity

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Author’s response to reviews:

We have carried out all of the corrections, below.

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1. It has come to our attention that in the "surgical procedure" section of the methods, there is significant text overlap with the following publication:


While we understand that you may wish to express some of the same ideas contained in these publications, please be aware that we cannot condone the use of text from previously published work, even if this is your own previously published work. We would therefore be grateful if you could provide a justification for the overlap in text between your manuscript and other sources. Please be informed that we cannot proceed with handling your manuscript before this issue is resolved, and the sections of text in question have been reformulated. If this study uses methodology from a previously published work, please provide a summarizing statement in the methodology together with a citation to the original paper.

2. Please change the "Introduction" heading to 'Background'. Please also include a 'Conclusions' heading.
3. Please provide a list of all the abbreviations used in the manuscript. This list should be placed after the conclusions and just before the Declarations section. All abbreviations should still be defined in the text at first use.

4. Please note that all manuscripts must contain all the following sections under the heading 'Declarations'. The Declarations should follow the abbreviations section, and be before the References.

   Ethics approval and consent to participate

   Consent for publication

   Availability of data and material

   Competing interests

   Funding

   Authors' contributions

   Acknowledgements

5. In the Ethics approval and consent to participate section of the Declarations, please clarify whether the IRB waived informed consent.

6. Please move the Authors' contributions from the title page to the Declarations.

7. We note that you have not included a ‘Consent for publication’ section in the Declarations. Consent for publication refers to consent for the publication of identifying images or other personal or clinical details of participants that compromise anonymity. Seeing as this is not applicable to your manuscript please state “Not Applicable” in this section.

8. Thank you for including a data availability statement. This statement should detail the location of the raw data underlying the conclusions made in this study. We note that only summarized data is presented in this manuscript, so we would like to ask that you amend this statement by stating who can be contacted to request the raw data. If there are any ethics restrictions preventing the sharing of the raw data, please state this. If you do not wish to share the data, please include a reason why it will not be shared in this section.
9. We note that you have not included an acknowledgements section. If you have no acknowledgements please put ‘Not Applicable’ in this section.

10. We note that you have not included a ‘Funding’ section in the Declarations. All sources of funding for the research reported should be declared. If no funding was obtained for your study we still require this section to be included with the statement “No funding was obtained for this study”.

11. Please remove the supplementary file "201709271618R0.pdf".

12. At this stage, we ask that you submit a clean version of your manuscript and do not include track changes or highlighting.