Reviewer’s report

Title: Improvement in Early Urinary Continence Recovery After Robotic-assisted Radical Prostatectomy Based on Postoperative Pelvic Anatomic Features: A Retrospective Review

Version: 2 Date: 26 Aug 2019

Reviewer: Reviewer 3

Reviewer's report:

PEER REVIEWER ASSESSMENTS:

OBJECTIVE - Full research articles: is there a clear objective that addresses one or several testable research questions? (Brief or other article types: is there a clear objective?)

Yes - there is a clear objective

DESIGN - Is the current approach (including controls and analysis protocols) appropriate for the objective?

Yes - the approach is appropriate

EXECUTION - Are the experiments and analyses performed with sufficient technical rigor to allow confidence in the results?

Yes - experiments and analyses were performed appropriately

STATISTICS - Is the use of statistics in the manuscript appropriate?

Yes - appropriate statistical analyses have been used in the study

INTERPRETATION - Is the current interpretation/discussion of the results reasonable and not overstated?

Yes - the author's interpretation is reasonable
OVERALL MANUSCRIPT POTENTIAL - Has the author addressed your concerns sufficiently for you to now recommend the work as a technically sound contribution? If not, can further revisions be made to make the work technically sound?

Yes - current version is technically sound

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS:

GENERAL COMMENTS: The authors have answered systematically and fully all the questions posed by the two reviewers adequately. They edited the methods, results and updated the tables. They used "English proofreading" to address grammatical errors. In the discussion added 5-6 references to review the membranous urethral length and MRI follow up studies post-prostatectomy. The authors mention in their edited methods section that "we did not routinely perform NVB preservation, puboprostatic ligament preservation, and reconstruction of the distal apex." All those surgical modifications have been specifically described to reduce incontinence post prostatectomy. Interestingly, the authors' incontinence rates were similar to that quoted in the literature at 15.1% of patients at 1 year. The authors however address this issue in the last paragraph of the discussion. They mentioned that "other parameters affecting urinary incontinence might have been underestimated". Overall the study adds to the body of literature supporting the MRI findings they present here.

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS:

The revisions have been addressed in the edited section.

Please confirm that you have included your review in the ‘Comments to Author’ box? As a minimum standard, please include a few sentences that outline what you think are the authors’ hypothesis/objectives, their main results, and the conclusions drawn. Your report should constructively instruct authors on how they can strengthen their paper to the point where it may be acceptable for publication, or provide detailed reasons as to why the manuscript does not fulfill our criteria for consideration. Please supply appropriate evidence using examples from the manuscript to substantiate your comments. Please break your comments into two bulleted or numbered sections: major and minor comments.

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Are the methods appropriate and well described to allow independent reproduction of experiments?
Please state in the ‘Comments to Authors’ box below what you think are the strengths and weaknesses of the methods (study design, data collection, and data analysis), and what is required, if anything, to improve the quality of reporting

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please explain in the ‘Comments to Author’ box below.

Yes

Are you able to assess the statistics?
- Are the statistical test(s) used in this study appropriate and well described?
- Is the exact sample size (n) reported for each experimental group/condition (as a number, not a range)?
- Are the description of any error bars and probability values appropriate?
- Are all error bars defined in the corresponding figure legends?
- Has a sample size calculation been included, or a description and rationale about how sample sizes were chosen?
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Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

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