Reviewer’s report

Title: Fixation using Alternative Implants for the Treatment of Hip Fractures (FAITH-2): Design and Rationale for a Pilot Multi-Centre 2x2 Factorial Randomized Controlled Trial in Young Femoral Neck Fracture Patients

Version: 0 Date: 20 Jul 2018

Reviewer: Nikki Totton

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this manuscript. I think it is a very well designed and thought out study, the descriptions are very clear and overall the manuscript is easy to read.

My only, very minor, comments are below:

1. For the randomisation, has it been considered to stratify by centre and not just geographic location?

2. Just a note that the criteria for success seems very high. This is great to produce a stringent study but may be tripped up as there are a lot of different centres and so this may not be easily achieved.

3. How many centres exactly will there be recruiting?

4. I find the description of the composite outcome a little confusing, can you be really explicit as to the outcome i.e. is it binary dependent on all of those or one of the four criteria mentioned?

5. In the analysis it suggests a chi-squared test but would it be worth using a regression model so adjustments for, at a minimum, the stratification variables can be included?

Overall, I found this a very well written and interesting to read manuscript.

Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An exceptional article

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable
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No