Comment on Chen et al.: “Patellar resurfacing versus nonresurfacing in total knee arthroplasty: A meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials”

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Dear Editor,

We have read the study entitled “Patellar resurfacing versus nonresurfacing in total knee arthroplasty: A meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials” by Chen et al. [1] with interest. In this updated meta-analysis, the authors compared clinical effectiveness of patellar resurfacing in total knee arthroplasty (TKA) with nonresurfacing. However, we have several questions regarding this study.

Firstly, the authors used three electronic databases to search eligible studies. However, they did not provide the search strategy and flow diagram of the study selection. Therefore, we suggest that the authors should follow PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses) Statement criteria [2] when reporting a meta-analysis.

Secondly, the previous meta-analysis reported by He et al. [3] ultimately recruited 16 randomised controlled trials (RCTs), while this updated study had only 14 eligible RCTs. We would like to know the possible reason for this difference.

This updated meta-analysis indicated that patellar surfacing can reduce the reoperation rate. We agree with the authors that different surgeons and different prosthetic design may affect the outcomes. Therefore, as the authors have indicated, more RCTs are needed to reduce the bias.

References

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