Reply, Letter to the Editor

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1116

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We are grateful to Drs Ariffin and Ngadiron for the interest in our paper. It should be clarified that this analysis was performed prior to the introduction of a trauma system in Scotland and that the comparison was between institutions that were planned to become major trauma centres and those that were not. The authors sought to demonstrate the current position of trauma care for traumatic visceral injury using time to CT as a surrogate marker of the efficiency of existing processes. The authors did not assess the reasons

for any delays or investigate differences in morbidity and mortality in these two groups. It would be difficult in such a retrospective study to demonstrate that any difference in outcomes was due to the time to CT itself or other factors. However, the authors do plan to investigate outcome and compare these parameters after the introduction of a trauma system in Scotland in due course.

With kind regards.

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