Review of ‘The importance of pronator quadratus repair in the treatment of distal radius fractures with volar plating’

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To the Editor:

We read with interest the article by Ahsan and Yao [1], on the significance of pronator quadratus (PQ) repair during volar plating of distal radius fractures. The authors recommend doing a PQ repair, even though their study showed no significant difference in ROM, grip strength and complications between the complete and incomplete PQ repair groups. They conclude that the pronator is required to cover the distal part of the volar plate to protect the overlying flexor tendons from hardware irritation, but they did not have any incidences of tendon ruptures. This may be due to a small sample size. In a series of 353 patients, Casaletto et al. [2] noted a 1.9 % incidence of flexor pollicis longus (FPL) rupture, which was associated with the positioning of the plate, rather than the use of PQ.

Conflict of interest All named authors hereby declare that they have no conflicts of interest to disclose.

References

1. Ahsan ZS, Yao J. The importance of pronator quadratus repair in the treatment of distal radius fractures with volar plating. *Hand*. 2012;7(3): 276–80.
2. Casaletto JA, Machin D, Leung R, et al. Flexor pollicis longus tendon ruptures after palmar plate fixation of fractures of the distal radius. *J Hand Surg Eur*. 2009;34(4):471–4.

This article does not contain any studies with human or animal subjects.

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