# **LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

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# Comment on "Clinical outcome of femoral neck system versus cannulated compression screws for fixation of femoral neck fracture in younger patients"



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# Dear Editor.

Recently, Hu et al. have published the article "Clinical outcome of femoral neck system versus cannulated compression screws for fixation of femoral neck fracture in younger patients" [1]. We read it with great interest. We would like to congratulate for their laudable efforts to perform this meticulous retrospective analysis on this intriguing subject. However, I would request the authors to further clarify upon certain points mentioned below so that the results could be more clearly interpreted and a similar study could be reproduced.

- 1. Statistical analysis. The authors mentioned "discrete variables were reported as numbers (percentage of total)", but the statistical methods are not mentioned. A discrete variable is a variable whose value is obtained by counting. In contrast, continuous variable is a variable whose value is obtained by measuring [2]. Operation time, perioperative blood loss, and Harris score should be continuous variables, not discrete variables. The statistical analysis of discrete variables using continuous variables may eventually lead to bias.
- 2. Study population. In the study population, the authors mentioned that "with a minimum of 6 months follow-up" were included in the study. However, in the results, the authors also mentioned that "all patients received at least 1

- year of clinical follow-up"; it seems to be a contradiction.
- 3. Results. In the results, surgical time of FNS and CCS was  $79.75 \pm 26.35$  min vs.  $64.58 \pm 18.56$  ml, which is incorrect. It should be  $79.75 \pm 26.35$  min vs.  $64.58 \pm 18.56$  min.

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# Authors' contributions

YF-T was contributor in writing the manuscript, and GL-W was responsible for reviewing and editing the manuscript. The authors read and approved the final manuscript.

### Authors' information

No applicable.

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### Availability of data and materials

All data generated or analyzed during this study are included in this published article.

# **Declarations**

# Ethics approval and consent to participate

Not applicable.

# Consent for publication

Not applicable.

## Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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