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**Article Submission to Journal of Orthopaedic Surgery and Research**

Dear Professor Dr. Maffulli,

Please find attached our manuscript entitled "**Minimally invasive plate osteosynthesis (MIPO) versus open reduction and internal fixation (ORIF) in the treatment of distal fibula Danis-Weber type B and C fractures**”. On behalf of all authors, we would like to submit this manuscript for publication in the Journal of Orthopaedic Surgery and Research as an original research article. We declare that this manuscript is original, has not been published before and is not currently being considered for publication elsewhere.

In this manuscript, we compare the clinical and radiological outcomes of minimally invasive techniques to open reduction and internal fixation in the treatment of distal fibula fractures. This is the largest retrospective cohort study ever done trying to answer the question which operative technique is best. MIPO showed to be superior to ORIF in the surgical treatment of distal fibula fractures with respect to the overall complication rate.

We confirm that the manuscript has been read and approved by all named authors and that there are no other persons who satisfied the criteria for authorship but are not listed. We further confirm that the order of authors listed in the manuscript has been approved by all of us. Please note that Cesare Marazzi and Matthias Wittauer have contributed equally to this manuscript and therefor share the first authorship.

We hope our submission may be deemed worthy of publication.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Cesare Marazzi, Matthias Wittauer, Michael Hirschmann, Enrique Testa