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The primary responsibilities of our scientific editors include carefully checking the entire manuscript and all accompanying materials for: (1) errors in spelling, grammar, punctuation and wording; (2) suitability of tables, figures, figure data and legends; (3) accurate and appropriate presentation of symbols (*e.g.* +, -, ×, ÷, %, \*) in tables and figures; and (4) complete and comprehensive revision of the manuscript according to the reviewers' comments.

The information for your currently assigned manuscript and the checklist are below:

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Orthopedics

**Manuscript NO.:** 40390

**Column:** Systematic Review

**Title:** Should antibiotics be administered before arthroscopic knee surgery? A systematic review of the literature

**Authors:** John Carney, Nathanael Heckmann, Erik N Mayer, Ram K Alluri, C Thomas Vangsness Jr., George F Hatch III and Alexander E Weber

**Reviewer code:** 02706155, 03065412, 03067293, and 00505357

**First decision:** 2018-07-19 07:51

**Scientific Editor:** Fang-Fang Ji

**Date of signature:** 2018-09-11

Item no.	Specific items for verification	Comments
1	The fixed headings are copied.	[Y]
2	The title concisely summarizes the main topic of the study and is not too long (no more than 12 words). Words such as 'exploration', 'research', 'analysis', 'observation', and 'investigation' are avoided. The title does not start with 'The' and does not include any Arabic numbers or uncommon abbreviations.	[Y]
3	A short running title is provided (no more than 6 words).	[Y]
4	The authors' full family (sur)names and full/abbreviated first names are listed on the title page and are consistent with those listed in the signed BPG	[Y]



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17	The 'INTRODUCTION' section clearly describes the relevant background information for the study. Only the most relevant and current (within the past 5 years) literature is cited, with the exception of rare instances of seminal literature citations. All technical terms and/or abbreviations are explained and/or defined, with the full name of abbreviations given upon first appearance in the text and the abbreviation presented in parentheses [ <i>i.e.</i> , "...computed tomography (CT)"]. First-person pronouns ( <i>e.g.</i> , 'I', 'we') are used appropriately to clearly indicate the work performed by the author(s). When weaknesses of previous studies are described in the text to highlight the innovations related to the current study, the information is presented carefully.	[Y]
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19	The 'RESULTS' section concisely describes the observational and experimental results. Representative data and data that have scientific significance are emphasized. Data is presented in either the text, a table or figure ( <i>i.e.</i> , chart, diagram, graph or image), but is not repeated among each. Information presented in the tables and figures clearly describes the trends, meaning, and inferences. Results described in textual form are accurate, concise and clear.	[Y]
20	The order and numerical labeling of tables and figures is consistent with their appearance and presentation in the text. Symbols in tables ( <i>e.g.</i> , +, -, ×, ÷, *) correctly correspond to the definitions in the footnotes. Only one legend is provided for each multi-panel figure consisting of color graphs, black and white graphs, or line graphs that depicts data of the same theme. For example: <b>Figure 1</b> Pathological changes in atrophic gastritis tissue before and after treatment. A: ...; B: ...; C: ...; D: ...; E: ...; F: ....	[Y]
21	Split pictures include flow charts, line graphs, histograms, and graphs including text. Unsplit pictures include meta-analysis diagrams, PCR amplification curves, and survival curves.	[Y]

22	Statistical symbols are accurate. Statistical significance is expressed as <sup>a</sup> $P < 0.05$ , <sup>b</sup> $P < 0.01$ ( $P > 0.05$ usually does not need to be denoted). If there are other series of $P$ values, <sup>c</sup> $P < 0.05$ and <sup>d</sup> $P < 0.01$ are used, and a third series of $P$ values is expressed as <sup>e</sup> $P < 0.05$ and <sup>f</sup> $P < 0.01$ . Statistical data is expressed as mean $\pm$ SD or mean $\pm$ SE.	[Y]
23	The 'DISCUSSION' section (1) describes the main purpose and hypothesis of the study; (2) summarizes the most important results; (3) illustrates and explains the results (but does not simply repeat the data) and draws conclusions or inferences based on the results; (4) points out the limitations of the study and their impact on the results, as well as proposes further advice on future research topic(s) or direction(s); and (5) describes the theoretical significance and practical value of the findings.	[Y]
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38	The text of the manuscript is typed in Book Antiqua font, 10 pt, with 1.5 line spacing.	[Y]
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YES=[Y]; NO= [N].