

## Peer Review File

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### Reviewer A

I think the use of PROMs is actually long overdue but has not been adequately appreciated after thoracic trauma so far. This issue needs to be more in focus for further investigations. I totally agree with the statement of your editorial.

Reply: Thank you – we agree and feel an editorial is the best way of raising this in the first instance and hope it will generate significant discussion and focus efforts on an important area.

Changes in the text: N/A

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### Reviewer B

The manuscript is well-written and covers an important and underexposed subject. However, for the readership, the main purpose of this editorial remains unclear. Which article are the authors commenting on? Or is there another goal? Please elaborate and add a short introduction to your paper. Moreover, a more structured approach (including a short introduction, problem overview, helicopter view on different discussed aspects and a tantalizing conclusion with a look into future) would improve the quality of this editorial.

Reply: We thank you for the very helpful and insightful comments and when we proposed an editorial it was to raise the profile of this issue and potentially focus the efforts of the wider community to begin to address it.

The main aim of the article is to raise the profile of an underexposed subject. As such we felt that a general overview was important. We fully appreciate the structured approach suggested by the reviewer and have tried to amend in some manner without completely having to re write the editorial and losing the messages we sought to convey. Changes in the text: Short introduction added, including the problem that this is not a well addressed area with a summary of how to address this issue in the first instance

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### Reviewer C

Thanks for the interesting article of Goosemann et al. This is an interesting topic and there aren't a lot of literature regarding outcome after thoracic trauma.

The article is well written but I have some questions about it:

- 1) Wouldn't it be interesting to associate the editorial with a small review of the literature on chronic post-traumatic chest pain?
- 2) There are no data on the reduction of patients' work capacity after chest trauma

It would be interesting to integrate the editorial with the following data.

Reply: We recognize that both points 1 and 2 are very important but would be beyond the scope of a general editorial. Certainly, we agree a literature review would be of

benefit but as a separate article. Additionally point 2 would be very important but would be a completely separate original article.  
Changes in the text: none made.

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