

## **Reviewer's report**

**Title:** A Case Report of Thoracolumbar Paraspinal Myopathy as the Cause of Camptocormia in a Patient with Atypical Parkinsonism

**Version:** 0 **Date:** 27 Mar 2017

**Reviewer:** Ming-Kuei Lu

### **Reviewer's report:**

The authors reported a patient with atypical parkinsonism presenting acute onset camptocormia and back pain. Imaging and pathological evidences support that the thoracolumbar paraspinal myopathy can be the cause of camptocormia for this patient. This report addresses an interesting issue concerning the pathogenesis of camptocormia. However, the authors may need to consider the following points.

1. The patient was reported with a history of old cerebral infarction in the right MCA territory. The muscle tone seems increased on the left side. Did the patient show hyperreflexia or any spasticity resulting to her camptocormia?
2. "Atypical parkinsonism" is a relatively vague diagnosis. The authors may consider to provide some more clinical information such as MR angiography and autonomic function to exclude the possibility of atherosclerotic parkinsonism and multiple system atrophy, respectively. The dosage and the duration of the levodopa/carbidopa trial should be described.
3. Is it correct that the levodopa/carbidopa trial improved the patient's gait by increasing step width instead of step/stride length?
4. Concerning the "central proprioceptive dysregulation" hypothesis, the authors argued that it is not likely the mechanism of camptocormia based on the muscle biopsy findings. Is there any clinical evidence supporting this argument? For example, findings of the physical examination on the proprioceptive sensation or somatosensory evoked potentials.
5. The reference format should be revised.

### **Are the methods appropriate and well described?**

If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

### **Does the work include the necessary controls?**

If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**

If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?**

If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

Not relevant to this manuscript

**Quality of written English**

Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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