Reviewer’s report

Title: Is tinnitus in normal-hearing patients accompanied by hemifacial spasm also a type of hyperactive neurovascular compression syndrome? A magnetoencephalography study

Version: 4 Date: 13 March 2013

Reviewer: Carlos Gordon

Reviewer’s report:

The manuscript has been corrected and improved answering almost all comments.

There are few points to be considered (Minor Essential Revisions):

1. The term "vascular conflict" is confusing and should be changed to "vascular compression of cranial (facial/auditory) nerve".

2. Background: "Because tinnitus is usually coincided with various ear disorders, surgical treatment of chronic tinnitus mainly focuses on ontological surgery". This is confusing and gives the impression that most cases of tinnitus can be surgically treated.

3. Methods: It is very convenient to start with a first sentence: Participants were 29 subjects with hemifacial spasm with neuro-radiological evidence of vascular compression of cranial (facial/auditory) nerve. This is also need to be clarified in the abstract.

4. Results. Authors did not clarify that in fact they are dealing mainly with pulsatile tinnitus. Six out of their eight patients (75%) had pulsatile tinnitus. This is a point that should be clarified and discussed in the text. Was the data from the two patients with no pulsatile tinnitus different?

5. Conclusions: last sentence of the manuscript and abstract needs language correction or should be rewritten.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests