Reviewer's report

Title: Assessment of nerve involvement in the lumbar spine: association between magnetic resonance imaging, physical examination and pain drawing findings

Version: 2 Date: 21 January 2009

Reviewer: Marcus Schiltenwolf

Reviewer's report:

- Discretionary Revisions

This article is of clinic interesting and will be a good example for some of patients who only believe MRI findings instead of physical examination. It was well designed and written. The limitations mentioned in the article were good explained.

One weakness of the pain drawing findings is that it is subjective. So that the physical examination extremely important. How is the association between age and MRI findings?

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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'