Reviewer's report

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

Version: 3 Date: 6 April 2009

Reviewer: Alison Hazel McGregor

Reviewer's report:

Minor essential revisions
Background page 4 2nd sentence "this is because............"
End of 3rd sentence - removal originating
4th sentence "MRI can be deemed to be too sensitive....."

Methods
end page 5 state which ethics board - northern or southern in case the reader makes the same mistake as me.

Page 7 1st paragraph "findings were assessed and graded as noted in the protocol below"

Page 16 weak not week

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 not competing interests