Reviewer's report

**Title:** Polymethylmethacrylate-assisted Ventral Discectomy: Rate of Pseudarthrosis and Clinical Outcome with a Minimum Follow-up of 5 Years

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 27 April 2011

**Reviewer:** Gulcan Gurer

**Reviewer's report:**

Manuscript titled “Polymethylmethacrylate-assisted Ventral Discectomy: Rate of Pseudarthrosis and Clinical Outcome with a Minimum Follow-up of 5 Years” is a retrospective study. Number of patients of this study is adequate. In this research, clinical outcomes and pseudarthrosis were evaluated in patients with polymethylmethacrylate (PMMA)-assisted ventral discectomy. This method has been criticized to show a high rate of graft migration and pseudarthrosis in previous studies. Therefore it is rarely used today. Pseudarthrosis also was found to be high rate in this investigation. But in this study even the clinical long-term success did not seem to be negatively affected by this condition. The preoperative data was lack in the presented study. This condition was criticized in this article.

- The title and abstract were accurately convey.
- The methods were appropriate and well described.
- Discussion and conclusions were well balanced and adequately supported by the data.
- There is limited interest of this investigation.
- There are spelling mistakes (in sample, pseudartrosis, pseudoartrosis) in the manuscript.

In my opinion, this article can be acceptable, but there are needs some language corrections before being published.

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

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