Reviewer's report

Title: Minimal invasive surgery for unicameral bone cyst using demineralized bone matrix: a case series

Version: 3 Date: 13 June 2012

Reviewer: Takafumi Ueda

Reviewer's report:

The authors documented 25 patients with unicameral bone cyst treated by the minimal invasive surgery using gel-type demineralized bone matrix (ExFuseTMII, Hansbiomed Inc, Seoul, Korea), and suggested its clinical usefulness. The outcomes are reasonable and present enough clinical implication to the readers for treating this enigmatic benign bone lesion, though the follow-up period (mean: 23.9 months) is relatively short.

There are several points that should be revised as follows:

1. The authors experienced two cases which required a second intervention because of cyst recurrence in the present series. The clinical characteristics of the recurrent cases, such as age and location, should be described in the Discussion section, if possible. Otherwise, the clinical characteristics of all patients in the present series can be listed in another Table, for better understanding of this case series to the readers.

2. The authors discussed the present method in comparison with the steroid-injection method, however, another minimally invasive method of cannulated screw decompression method has been previously reported as bellow. It should be cited as a reference, and also should be discussed compared with the present method.

Cannulation of simple bone cysts.

3. The more detailed clinical information of gel-type demineralized bone matrix (ExFuseTMII, Hansbiomed Inc, Seoul, Korea), which was used in the present case series, should be added in the Discussion section, and can be cited as a reference if available.

4. “leaded” might be correctly “led” in the middle part of page 9 (Discussion section). The authors are recommended to check spelling of the whole of manuscript again.