Reviewer's report

Title: Posterior Short Segment Pedicle Screw Fixation and TLIF for the Treatment of Unstable Thoracolumbar Fracture

Version: 2 Date: 27 September 2013

Reviewer: Hitesh Modi

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revision:
It is a good case study. However, I would request authors to change the title to unstable thoracolumbar/lumbar fractures. I see there is only five patients have T12 fracture and rest having Lumbar. Fracture at L3 and L4 should not be included in TL fractures. By definition TL level is body of T12 and L1 and adjacent discs only. So kindly correct the title.

I do not see any reason putting TLIF cage in the distal discs as well. I see burst fracture at the body which usually destroys upper endplate where you need to insert cage. However, in distal normal appearing disc should be spared. Authors need to clarify.

Minor revision:
I would request authors to include following articles in manuscript:


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.