Reviewer's report

Title: Achilles tendon rupture following surgical management for tendinopathy: a case report.

Version: 4 Date: 2 January 2007

Reviewer: Guy Trudel

Reviewer's report:

General comments:
Case report is significantly improved from the initial submission.
The case provides new information based on the authors’ claim that this is the first case of tendon rupture following surgical exploration for tendinopathy ever reported.

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Concluding sentence of the abstract and background sections is unclear: “This case report also highlights the importance of strict adherence to eccentric loading exercises during rehabilitation.” Does it mean there is more chance of rupture if a different rehab program or no rehab program follows cast removal? Does it suggest that isometric or concentric active exercises or that passive stretching would be ineffective or harmful?

Syntax problem: “the patient was immobilized in a below knee synthetic casts”

The routine rehabilitation program is minimally defined. This reviewer hopes that it consisted of more than: “3-4 episodes of eccentric loading exercises as limited by pain”

Histology was performed on a post-op week 5 tendon. Some of the changes may be secondary to the initial surgery; this should be indicated.

Closing sentence, similar to abstract and background: “This case report highlights the importance of close adherence to a rehabilitation programme …” is insufficiently explained. One tendon healed well with the rehab program followed by this patient.

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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’