Reviewer's report

Title: Can Hyperbaric Oxygen be Used to Prevent Deep Infections in Neuro-muscular Scoliosis Surgery?

Version: 4  Date: 16 June 2014

Reviewer: Kiyotaka Kohshi

Reviewer's report:

This revised paper has not been basically changed compared with their former one.

I ought to say the same comments to the revised one. The authors had better to re-write their data as only their clinical experience, do not compare two treatment groups.

General comments:

1. Authors said “to significantly decrease” in abstract though they did not compare two treatment groups using statistical methods, not randomized controlled trial suggested by them. If the authors try statistical approach such as chi-square test, they will not have “statistical significance” on their data, that is, their treatment results in two groups are similar. I do not say that HBO is useful to prevent postoperative infection.

2. I do not agree with the authors’ reply about the duration of HBO treatment as protection for wound infection. Its duration is 6 weeks, and it is long and is treatment time for wound infection or healing. Low cost of HBO is not a reason for continuing HBO treatment.

Special comments and recommendations for revision:

1. If the authors hypothesize about prophylactic effects of HBO for post-surgical wound infection, they should compare the treatment results using statistical approaches even though randomized controlled trial is not possible.

2. Other comments are same as the former ones.