Reviewer's report

Title: Acute scrotum as a complication of Thiersch operation for rectal prolapse in a child

Version: 1 Date: 10 September 2006

Reviewer: PRAVIN GUPTA

Reviewer's report:

General

-------------------------------------------------------------

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
An interesting case report revealing another complication of anal encirclement for rectal prolapse.

The case report indicates a suppurative complication of Theirsch’s procedure extending into the scrotum. However, there is no mention about the condition of the tract itself, in which the wire was lying. Was there any induration or suppuration in the course of the tract?
Was there any paraproctitis or anal canal inflammation? No per-rectal findings have been mentioned. Did the author notice any zone of fibrosis or narrowing at the anal verge created by the wire lying there for a year?
What happened to rectal prolapse after removal of wire?

Why an endoanal ultrasound was not done to find out the peri-rectal anatomy?
In such situation, usually a sinus is formed at the site of removal of wire, which may drain intermittently. Could the authors notice such sinus in this case?

A detailed follow-up of the case should be included to alert the readers practicing such procedure for rectal prolapse.

-------------------------------------------------------------

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

-------------------------------------------------------------

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests