Reviewer's report

Title: The spectrum of Apert syndrome: phenotype, particularities in orthodontic treatment, and characteristics of orthognathic surgery

Version: 1  Date: 27 July 2006

Reviewer: Heike Maria Korbmacher

Reviewer's report:

General

The manuscript deals with the important issue of treating handicapped children on an interdisciplinary base. The authors precisely describe the difficulties in treating children with Apert syndrome who reveal complex orthodontic findings. The most striking and unique point in this paper is the honest way the authors discuss the difficulties of the perfect extraction decision. The three presented cases perfectly cover the range of different treatment solutions. The conclusion is based on their clinical experience in treating such patients and may encourage other practitioners to treat such patients.

Recommendations: There are too many figures and tables. In favour to a better understanding, the number of figures should be restricted (focus on the point you want to make). I.e. Figure 13 and 14: Are both figures necessary? Intention of Figure 13 and 14 is to highlight the problems of derotation of teeth 41. Maybe only one intraoral picture showing the unchanged position even though good mechanics were applied would be sufficient.

Congratulations on your work.

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

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.