Reviewer's report

Title: Painful rib hump. A new clinical sign for detecting intraspinal rib displacement in scoliosis due to neurofibromatosis.

Version: 1 Date: 12 April 2006

Reviewer: Toru Maruyama

Reviewer's report:

General
This was an interesting case report.

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

1:Page 1, Abstract, line 11: limps -> limbs
2:Page 1, Abstract: In which part of the body did the patient feel painful by pressure? Even discussed later, the patient’s symptom should be clearly described.
3:Page 3, line 8: x-rays -> radiographs
4:Page 3, line 11: cephalad end of the left eighth rib
5:Page 3, line 17: correction and fusion
6:Page 3, line 18: In which vertebral levels was the instrumentation applied and how much was the Cobb’s angle after surgery? Although it may be not essential for this report and for this journal, I personally would like to see the radiographs after surgery.
7:Page 4, line 4: dura -> dural
8:Page 4, line 4: Spinal cord compression

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

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: Needs some language corrections before being published