Reviewer's report

Title: Social Acceptability of Treatments for Adolescent Idiopathic Scoliosis: a cross-sectional study.

Version: Date: 7 July 2006

Reviewer: Joseph O'Brien

Reviewer's report:

General

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

Thank you to the authors for addressing suggested changes. Unfortunately I need further clarification to ensure that my major questions were answered.

1. Do I now understand that the extent of education for the "informed" PG and SG was solely the text within the questionnaire, except for the question and answer opportunity within the PG group? If so, then I would suggest the questionnaire be translated to English with a qualifying statement from the authors explaining their concerns with re-using the English version.

2. The authors now explain the complexity of the questionnaire being due to it's "role playing" nature. In the discussion section the authors state that the low response rate was not found to be influenced by the different methods to motivate and educate....but "probably" attributable to the complexity of the questionnaire.

What was "found"? How was this judgement made? What objective criterion was used? 100% of the PG group with direct contact responded yet less than 40% with indirect contact in the SG group responded. The different methods appear to have a large influence.

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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)

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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: Needs some language corrections before being published

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