Reviewer's report

Title: Rare Causes of Scoliosis and Spine Deformity: Experience and Particular Features

Version: 3 Date: 10 August 2007

Reviewer: Toru Maruyama

Reviewer's report:

General
The authors show cases with spinal deformity related rare clinical entities.
I enjoyed the paper which included a wide variety of causes; however, description of each patient is relatively simple.
First of all, the journal Scoliosis is open access one. Do the patients accept that their photographs are shown on the internet? If so, the manuscript should include a statement. Please read the instructions for Scoliosis authors.

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

Please indicate at least VC and %VC as results of pulmonary function test.
Figure numbers are incorrect. Some of them are not indicated in the text.
Page 7, line 4: facies – face?
Page 8, line 8: arthrogryposis
Page 8, line 9: 16-year-old
Page 8, line 10 pulmonary function – indicate the results
Page 9: insert the figure number 3-6 in the text
Page 9 Fig.3: 16-year-old
Page 10, line 8: pulmonary function tests – indicate the results
Page 10, line 10: chemoprophylaxis – What was used and why?
Page 11, line 2: 16th
Page 11, line 7: 5th
Page 11 line 8: Fig. 3 – Fig. 7, 8?
Page 11 line 12: intensive care unit
Page 11, line 13: 13th
Page 11, line 17: 1.15 cm height – correct?
Page 13, line 7: Fig. 5 – Fig. 9?
Page 13, line 7: pulmonary function tests – indicate the results
Page 13, line 13: intensive care unit
Page 14, line 3: severe restrictive pulmonary disease – Was the PFT done?
Page 15, line 2: Fig. 4 – Fig. 10?
Page 15: insert the figure number 11, 12 in the text
Page 17, line 16: Fig. 1 – Fig. 13?
Page 17, line 19: intensive care unit
Page 17, line 21: 9th
Page 18, line 4: a 30-year-old female – When did she receive school screening?
Page 18, line 5: Fig. 7 – Fig. 14?
Page 18: insert the figure number 15 in the text
Page 21, line 21: arthrogryposis
Page 22, line 14: aortal – aortic?
Page 25, line 7: facies – face?
Figure legends: Fig. 3: 16-year-old

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