Reviewer's report

Title: Efficacy of manual therapy to avoid progression of adolescent idiopathic scoliosis: A systematic review

Version: 2 Date: 26 December 2007

Reviewer: Theodoros B. Grivas

Reviewer's report:

Dear Chief Editor

Reviewing the submitted manuscript entitled:

âEfficacy of manual therapy to avoid progression of adolescent idiopathic scoliosis: A systematic reviewâ,

I would like to comment that:

Negative results are an important component of scientific inquiry. According to this axiom the submitted study is useful.

The submitted paper is critically analyzing the existing scientific data on the issue, and it concludes that there is lack of any kind of serious scientific data thus it is not allowed to draw any conclusion on the efficacy of manual therapy as an efficacious technique for the treatment of Adolescent idiopathic scoliosis.

There is recently a lot of discussion on the evidence for conservative treatments for Idiopathic Scoliosis (IS). The general accepted honest conclusion on the issue is that the evidence for conservative treatments is weak in number and length. Therefore a long way is due for the workers on the disease.

Under this perspective the submitted paper merits publication, because it urges the researchers for more comprehensive work on conservative AIS treatment. This is exactly what is eagerly expected by the scientific community and the suffering scoliotic patients.

Minor Essential Revisions

The author can be trusted to make these. For example, missing labels on figures, the wrong use of a term, spelling mistakes.

However the authors must pay attention to the âinstructions to authorsâ of Scoliosis journal. The instructions for authors are available at the web site and open to every one. The paper needs to be re-written in compliance to âinstructions to authorsâ of Scoliosis.

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

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