Reviewer’s report

Title: Increased Rod Stiffness Improves the Degree of Deformity Correction by Segmental Pedicle Screw Fixation in Adolescent Idiopathic Scoliosis

Version: 2 Date: 21 July 2011

Reviewer: Marc Asher

Reviewer’s report:

Discretionary Revision
Discussion, Line 22. Reference 8 is cited as showing larger rods do not result in stress shielding. As mentioned in the first review, the constructs used in this cited study are not comparable to the construct in the current study. Experimentally, stiffer constructs have been shown to result in decreased fusion stiffness. Whether or not this is important clinically is, of course, still an open question. The earlier acknowledgement of the construct difference would be better placed here.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:
Conflict of Interest: I am a co-designer of Isola implants.