Reviewer's report

Title: Conservative treatment in scoliosis and vital capacity evolution Statistical analysis among 321 scoliotic patients treated with CMCR brace. Comparison to a group of 240 scoliotic patients treated with Lyon brace

Version: 1 Date: 4 December 2010

Reviewer: Josette Bettany-Saltikov

Reviewer's report:

Overall I think this paper is very interesting and of interest to both patients and doctors in this field. However there are a number of aspects of the paper that need to be addressed:

1. The paper is too lengthy and is a difficult to read. I would suggest making the paper more concise and to the point. I would also recommend not repeating the information in the tables in the text as well.

2. The english language used within the paper needs to be improved significantly. There are too many one sentence paragraphs! these could be condensed into multiple sentence paragraphs.

3. It appears to me that some of the statistical analysis used are not appropriate. The use of multiple T-tests for instance may have resulted in type 2 errors. A 2 way anova with repeated measures may be a more appropriate test.

4. The discussion section needs to have greater depth and more critiqing within it.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'