Reviewer's report

Title: Effectiveness of Cheneau brace treatment for idiopathic scoliosis: prospective study in 79 patients followed to skeletal maturity

Version: 2 Date: 29 October 2010

Reviewer: Jens Ivar Brox

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revision:

The manuscript is improved but still warrants copy edit. The last sentence in the conclusion is not supported by the results. Poor compliance is not mentioned in the abstract because the authors do not regard those who were unwilling to use the brace and have in-patient physiotherapy for 3-weeks as non-compliers. This is an important question that is not well answered. Did patients not prefer to have physiotherapy or the brace, why would they not choose the best available treatment in Poland? Also the discussion could be more structured and discuss alternative explanations for lack of progress in 50% of the patients. Probably this could be expected without treatment in 25 % of the patients or more?

Minor Essential Revision:

I still would prefer less than six pictures of the brace. Interested readers will find this on a website.

Also one of the latest publications on long-term follow-up published in Scoliosis is not on the reference list (Lange et al. 2009).

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.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.