Reviewer’s report

Title: Body mass index in relation to truncal asymmetry of healthy adolescents, a physiopathogenetic concept in common with idiopathic scoliosis. Summary of an electronic focus group debate of the IBSE.

Version: 4 Date: 2 May 2013

Reviewer: Tomasz Kotwicki

Reviewer’s report:

The authors seem specially like the illogical term of "bilateral asymmetry". Although in their answer the authors state: “Bilateral" has been removed from the text. In fact, "bilateral asymmetry" appears in the chapter "other bilateral asymmetries" three times: in the title and twice in the text of the chapter.

There is no other asymmetry in human being than the left-right asymmetry or simple the asymmetry. Sagital plane asymmetry does not exist in human being, contrary to what the authors claim in their answer. It is interesting the authors are not stupefied with immense illogical construction they built by adding the word "bilateral" to the word "asymmetry".

This reviewer propose the Editor to keep the terming like written by the authors as this point is quite a minor one. The paper will be accessible to the reader together with the review.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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.