Reviewer's report

Title: Reinstrumentation for Rapid Curve Progression After Implant Removal Following Posterior Instrumented Fusion in Adolescent Idiopathic Scoliosis: A Case Report

Version: 1 Date: 13 February 2013

Reviewer: Jack Cheng

Reviewer's report:

This is a case report on significant progression of curve following implant removal in an AIS patient with right thoracic curve treated with posterior instrumentation and fusion. A few major concerns:

1. From Figure 1 A, it appears that the pre-operative curve is a double thoracic curve rather than simple right thoracic curve as the left shoulder is actually elevated with tilting of the T1 vertebra.
2. The upper level of instrumentation seen in Figure 1B appears to be in T5 or T6. The upper hooks is in the curve rather than controlling the curve. The upper hooks appears to be either pulled out or dislodged.
3. Its likely that the fusion at the upper and middle thoracic region might not be able to go on smoothly with that implant construction which could account for the subsequent significant deterioration after implant removal.
4. The original suggestion of regular removal of the implant following scoliosis instrumentation is also very doubtful.

Level of interest: Reject as not of sufficient priority to merit publishing in this journal

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests