Reviewer's report

Title: Whither the etiopathogenesis (and scoliogeny) of adolescent idiopathic scoliosis? Incorporating presentations on scoliogeny at the 2012 IRSSD and SRS Meetings

Version: 1 Date: 27 December 2012

Reviewer: Stefano Negrini

Reviewer's report:

The paper appears to me well done and similar to those previously published on the topic.

Discretionary revisions

I understand that this is the way these reviews have always been written by the authors, and it would require a big effort to change them according to the following suggestion, nevertheless I think it would be of paramount importance not only to accumulate any kind of evidence on etiopathogenesis of AIS like the authors usually do, but also to grade them according to the strength of evidence, as it is usually done in all systematic reviews. In fact, in this way it could be possible to understand what is proven at least a bit, and what is only authors' hypothesis. Not all what is usually written in the reviews the authors usually perform regularly has the same scientific dignity! This is a suggestion for future works.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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