Reviewer's report

Title: A shallow chest correlates with right thoracic curvature in the normal spine: Features resembling those observed in structural scoliosis

Version: 7 Date: 15 July 2014

Reviewer: Richard Burwell

Reviewer's report:

1. Is the question posed by the authors new and well defined? Answer Yes.
2. Are the methods appropriate and well described, and are sufficient details provided to replicate the work? Answer No.
3. Are the data sound and well controlled? Answer. I don’t know.
4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition? Answer No.
5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data? Answer I don’t know.
6. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found? I don’t know.

11/. Major Revisions needed

• Why did the patients have CT scans?
• The measurements, apparently reported fully in a previous paper by the authors and not available to me. They are described “briefly”, so briefly that I do not understand how the aortic position was measured. This makes the paper incomprehensible.
• Decreased AP chest diameter in girls with right thoracic AIS was described and interpreted by:

12. Recommend Major Compulsory Revision and re-submit.

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