Reviewer's report

Title: In favour of the definition "adolescents with idiopathic scoliosis": juvenile and adolescent idiopathic scoliosis braced after ten years of age, do not show different end results. SOSORT Award Winner 2014.

Version: 2 Date: 14 June 2014

Reviewer: Theodoros B. Grivas

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revisions
This submission is the 2014 SOSORT first award winner. Among more than 80 submissions was top scored.

The aim of this study was to compare the final results of two groups of scoliosis patients, treated during adolescence, with the same characteristics, the only difference among the two groups was the age of diagnosis of scoliosis, thus defining one group as JIS and the other as AIS.

The methods used to implement the study are suitable, the number and the age of included to the study children are also appropriate.

The produced results was the outcome of sound statistical analysis and analytically presented. The authors came to the conclusion, that these two group of patients presented comparable results at start of treatment and in treatment applied, with the only difference of age at diagnosis, that patients with JIS have the same risk of progression as AIS. Also clinical parameters appear similar. The only difference was in the number of patients progressed above 45° that were all in the JIS group. As a consequence, from this study, JIS does not increase the risk of progression per se, but only that of very important progression.

This study interestingly presents soundly derived results of non-operative treatment for JISW and AIS children treated with

There is paucity of similar studies in the literature. The publication of this article will enrich the knowledge on this challenging topic.

The authors must make clear the inclusion criteria and verify if JIS patients were diagnosed before the age of 10 by another institution; if they had any treatment before, and at what age they were first evaluated at the authors’ institution

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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