Reviewer’s report

Title: Evaluation of coronal shift as an indicator of neuroaxial abnormalities in adolescent idiopathic scoliosis: A prospective study.

Version: 1 Date: 13 May 2014

Reviewer: Lorenzo Aulisa

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- Major Compulsory Revisions:

  1. In the results the author showed that 46 patients have a significant coronal shift (defined as a 15 mm shift of C7 plumb line from natal left) of this only thirteen have had neuroaxial abnormalities. Moreover in the patients with neuroaxial abnormalities about 1/3 haven’t had a coronal shift. Therefore, in the discussion, would be better to highlight and discuss the incongruence.

  2. Considering the results, the coronal shift can not be considered significant for the indication to performing the MRI. Discuss it.

  3. I suggest to perform a pre operative MRI in the surgical cases also for medical lawyer. Discuss it.

Minor Essential Revisions

1. I think that with the actual information is not be able to distinguish whether it is an AIS combined with a neuroaxial abnormalities or it is a scoliosis due to the neuroxial defect. Discuss it.

2. Pag 3 line 7 I suggest to remove the word “presumed scoliosis” because you can’t exclude that it is an AIS combined with a neuroaxial abnormalities.

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'