Reviewer’s report

Title: Delayed Spinal Extradural hematoma following thoracic spine surgery producing paraplegia: A Case Report

Version: 2 Date: 21 January 2008

Reviewer: Philipp Lenzlinger

I am familiar with the literature and believe that this case meets one of the 7 criteria for evaluation in the journal: An unexpected event in the course of observing or treating a patient

Has the case been reported coherently?: Yes

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is this case worth reporting?: Yes

Is the case report persuasive?: Yes

Does the case report have explanatory value?: Yes

Does the case report have diagnostic value?: No

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: Yes

Comments to authors:

Straight forward and coherent case report of postoperative muscular bleed leading to progressive paraplegia following spinea surgery. Nice illustration of an uncommon complication.

The manuscript may profit form two additions, however:

1. What was the timecourse from onset of symptoms (pain) to first neurological symptoms to decompressive surgerery. This information be may be of educational value.

2. Could the authors comment on the fact, that the PSEH could develop to this massive extent despite the fact that a drainage was still in place. Was the drain clooted uppon reoperation?

What next?: Accept after minor revisions

Quality of written English: Acceptable