Author's response to reviews

Title: Achondroplastic girl manifesting enchondromatosis and ossification of the spinal ligaments

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Response to reviewers

Version: 5 Date: 20 February 2008

Reviewer: Christine Hall

Re the images, the MRI image to clarify the extensive and simultaneous ossifications of the anterior/posterior spinal ligaments.

Reviewer: Gen Nishimura

Response:
1. We believe that giving the term of spinal ankylosis on bases of standard radiographic features is not sufficient. MRI, images however, clearly delineate the associated features of abnormal pathologic process, specifically the ossified spinal ligaments. Furthermore, peripheral sclerotic borders of the vertebral bodies, the features that are extremely difficult to delineate/clarified via standard radiographs. We, confess that intravertebral multiple lytic lesions are better visualised by means of CT scan. Though, the sagittal MRI showed anterior end plates irregularities.
2. The Abstract has been modified, and we clarified the relation between impaired terminal differentiation of chondrocytes in connection with metaphyseal enchondromata and ossification of the spinal ligaments.