Reviewer’s report

Title: Reversal of isolated unilateral optic nerve edema with concomitant visual impairment following blunt trauma: a case report

Version: 3 Date: 19 November 2007

Reviewer: michael lee

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?: No

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?: No

Comments to authors:

General

The major problem is that the CRASH trial suggests that giving steroids in a patient with head trauma increases mortality. This case suggests that giving steroids is helpful. While the authors address the CRASH trial they don’t acknowledge that if a clinician chooses to give steroids (that has no proven benefit) and the patient dies, there is a huge medicolegal issue because of the CRASH trial. I don’t think it is reasonable to give steroids to patients with traumatic optic neuropathy anymore because of the natural history is the same as steroids and you can increase the risk of dying by giving steroids.

Revisions necessary for publication

What next?: Reject

Quality of written English: Acceptable