Reviewer's report

Title: Lateral Sacral Meningocele Presentation as a Gluteal Mass: a case report

Version: 3 Date: 26 January 2009

Reviewer: Robert Reddig

Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?: Unexpected or unusual presentations of a disease

Has the case been reported coherently?: Yes

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is the case report ethical?: Yes

Is there any missing information that you think must be added before publication?: No

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?: Yes

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

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

some minor points, otherwise a good case presentation:

ABSTRACT
1) 2nd paragraph: would change to "Iranian girl presenting with" (take out comma, change presented to presenting)
2) 3rd paragraph: would take out the word "so" in front of "rare" (also seems to be extra space after rare and before the comma)

CASE PRESENTATION
1) 3rd paragraph: the first sentence seems to go into neurological findings which are normal, but then the 3rd sentence just comes out and says there were no neurological deficits. Seems redundant: either spell out normals and say everything else is normal, or just say everything was normal
2) 3rd paragraph: do not need a comma in the second sentence
3) 4th paragraph: no comma needed after "T1-weighted images"

DISCUSSION:
1) repeats verbatim the introduction. I would at least reword it.
2) 2nd paragraph: need period and space after "skeletal deformities"
3) 2nd paragraph: in the last few sentences, the word "they" is used a lot. This seems to refer to LMS, which seems to me to be singular and not plural. If it refers to lateral meningoceles instead, I would use that instead of "they" for the first time and then could use "they" for the next few sentences.
4) last paragraph: misworded/mispelled in the "both our patient..." sentence

CONCLUSION
1) again, would not use "so" before "rare" and "helpful"
2) needs to be "patient with lipomeningocele" instead of "of lipomeningocele"
3) second to last sentence: "may transform it I to a" needs to be changed to "may transform it into a"

ABBREVIATIONS
I would place this as a small part near the beginning, though all of these abbreviations are so common I don't think they even need to be included

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare I have no competing interests