Reviewer's report

Title: Primary pyogenic spondylitis following kyphoplasty: a case report

Version: 5 Date: 12 October 2010

Reviewer: Cornelia Putz

Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?: 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 the case report ethical?: Yes

Is there any missing information that you think must be added before publication?: 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?: Yes

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

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

The initial impression of the revised manuscript is favourable and it is acceptable for publication after it has been revised satisfactorily. As some of the reviewers’ recommendation were not answered I would propose to correct the following statements.

page 4, 2nd para: "An operative treatment was recommended, but the patient did not agree at this date due to his bad medical condition."......

3 para: Owing to the clinical progression of neurological symptoms with the development of leg paresis in the following days, the patient gave informed consent to operative treatment and.....

How did you perform the education for operation? Please include that the patient was informed about progression of paralysis. Compression of the spinal cord is a
time dependent emergency and early decompression and stabilization state of the art. A "watch and wait strategy" is not really favorable in this case. Did the patient present neurogenic bladder and/or bowel dysfunction. Please clarify.

page 5 1st para: correct "complication"

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests