Reviewer's report

Title: Intrathecal injection of human umbilical cord blood-derived mesenchymal stem cells for the treatment of basilar artery dissection: a case report

Version: 1 Date: 1 February 2010

Reviewer: Oscar Lee

Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?: None

Has the case been reported coherently?: No

Is the case report authentic?: No

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?: No

Is the case report persuasive?: No

Does the case report have explanatory value?: No

Does the case report have diagnostic value?: No

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: No

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

The therapeutic effects of the transplanted umbilical cord blood-derived mesenchymal stem cells are not obvious in this case. First of all, in the MRI and MRI imaging before cell transplantation, there already is some sign of recanalization, suggesting that this may simply be the spontaneous process in a 17-year-old young patient. Besides, the functional improvement before and after cell transplantation is not obvious. Importantly, the major lesion in pontine is just partial so some gag and gaze recovery is natural. In terms of medication, on most occasions these patients need to be treated with antiplatelets and anticoagulants as therapeutic effects of these drugs are well-documented. Whether these medications have been given need to be reported. It is unethical not to give these medication to the patient and only rely on cell transplantation.
Quality of written English: Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.