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**: 21 February 2010

**Reviewer**: Giampiero La Rocca

**Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?**: Presentations, diagnoses and/or management of new and emerging diseases

**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?**: No

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

**Is the anonymity of the patient protected?**: Yes

**Comments to authors**:

The manuscript titled “Intrathecal injection of human umbilical cord blood derived mesenchymal stem cells for the treatment of basilar artery dissection: a case report” presents the results of an in vivo approach for the use of mesenchymal stem cells in the treatment of a vascular disorder. The article presents interesting data, which should deserve publication provided the authors should solve some issues which are here outlined:

1) English language: in several sections, the paper should benefit from an accurate proof reading by a native English speaking person, due to the presence of many linguistic flaws.

2) The authors should describe briefly the enrichment protocol of MSC versus
HSC in the UCB, in order to make the data clearer for the readers.

3) Please better detail the modality of intrathecal injection of MSC.

4) Abstract, third row, please add “mesenchymal” to “stem cells”

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests