Reviewer's report

Title: Cervical myelopathy caused by atlantoaxial instability in a patient with total aplasia of the posterior arch of the atlas: a case report

Version: 1 Date: 21 March 2012

Reviewer: NIKOLAOS BOUSSIOS

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

If other, please specify:

un unexpected finding during the patient management

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?: 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:

This is a well organized manuscript and it is worth reporting because it is the first report of a total aplasia of the posterior arch of the atlas, a coexisting os odontoideum and a cleft in the anterior arch. I think it should be better to include in the title the fact that an os odontoideum is present in your patient

Quality of written English: Acceptable