Reviewer’s report

Title: Pathological (late) fractures of the mandibular angle after lower third molar removal. A cases series.

Version: 4 Date: 16 January 2013

Reviewer: Bruno Chrcanovic

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?: 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?: Yes

Is this case worth reporting?: Yes

Is the case report persuasive?: No

Does the case report have explanatory value?: No

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:

This article is still not acceptable for publication in its present form. I am willing to give the authors another chance to do it properly, because the cases reports are greatly illustrated with full documentation. And the authors did not submit a list of changes or a rebuttal against each point which is being raised, because not every observation was taken into account by the authors. Points (still) to consider:

• The lacking references were added, but there are within the text and they should be properly identified as number and added to the references list;

• Again: In the Discussion section: “Also our three of pathological fracture of the mandibular angle were in the left side.” How can the authors comment that the left side had a higher incidence of fractures in comparison with the right side if
the third molar removal of the right side was not even performed in case reports 1 and 3!!!;
• Again: The authors cannot mention a new table (Table III) in the Conclusion section.
• Again: The authors cannot concluded that “Iatrogenic fracture is more directly related to the surgeon and the surgical procedure [13,15].” This is a conclusion from studies (references) 13 and 15;
• Again: The authors cannot conclude that “Pathological (late) fractures of the mandible angle after lower third molar surgical removal are infrequent events”, because the authors have not made an epidemiological study on the subject. This is probably a conclusion from another study;
• Again: Most part of the Conclusion section (if not all of it) is not a conclusion. It is a discussion based on results of other studies. Please conclude only the results (i.e. the case reports) from your study;
• Again: It was improved, but the text still needs a correction of the language.

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited