Reviewer's report

Title: Hyperbaric oxygen therapy for primary sternal osteomyelitis.

Version: 1 Date: 22 January 2013

Reviewer: Sandro Rizoli

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 is well written, coherent and easy to read. Unfortunately the manuscript offers no evidence that the hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT) had any therapeutic value. How can the authors be certain that if the patient had not received HBOT, that the healing would not be the same? The patient received standard treatment (antibiotics + surgery) plus HBOT, Maybe the standard treatment would have given the same result without HBOT. I suggest the authors add some evidence (or argument) that HBOT was in fact helpful.

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests:
I have no conflict of interest concerning this manuscript