Reviewer's report

Title: Spontaneous spinal subarachnoid hemorrhage after severe coughing: a case report

Version: 1 Date: 26 June 2013

Reviewer: Ali Alaraj

Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?: Unexpected or unusual presentations of a disease

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?: Yes

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:

I do appreciate the opportunity to review the manuscript “Spontaneous Spinal Subarachnoid hemorrhage After Sever Coughing: a Case Report”. The authors in this report present a rare clinical presentation of spinal subarachnoid hemorrhage after severe coughing. The paper is well written and does review the current literature of such rare cases and provide a physiological theorem for its presentation. By looking on the MRI images of the spine, it is not clear to me if there was a signal change within the cord at the level of the conus medullaris, and whether this did enhance with contrast injection. If this is true then the pathophysiology might be related to hemorrhage from a tumor rather than being truly spontaneous. I would appreciate if the authors can comment on this matter. Was contrast enhancement given, did the follow up MRI show signal change within the spinal cord?
Quality of written English: Acceptable