Reviewer's report

Title: Delayed Diagnosis of Anterior Subluxation of C7 vertebrae in a Post-Traumatic 35 years old with unusual neurological pattern - a case report

Version: 4 Date: 5 August 2012

Reviewer: Bertrand Sauneuf

Which of the following 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?: Yes

Is this case worth reporting?: No

Is the case report persuasive?: No

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:

Major
The authors should reorganize the report by distinguishing the 2 main important issues:
When should CT scan be performed in case of spine trauma?
Why did the patient present this unusual neurological examination?
Indeed the case report should not be a review on the clinical management of cervical subluxation

Minor
1/ In the case presentation, the authors should give more informations about the
initial trauma. Indeed, a big height fall or a high speed trauma could have justify an initial CT scan.

2/ Case presentation: if it's important to specify that laboratory investigation were performed to look for differential diagnosis, these test are normal and the results don’t add any information to the case.

Second sentence in the discussion: «mange» is written, instead of «manage»

3/ The authors should insist on the low sensibility of conventionnal radiographic examination and that CT scan shoud be performed in case of doubt

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests