Reviewer’s report

Title: Delayed surgical treatment for a traumatic bilateral cervical facet joint dislocation using a posterior-anterior approach

Version: 2 Date: 12 September 2012

Reviewer: Masayuki Miyagi

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?: 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?: No

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: Yes

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

The authors of this paper had reported an old bilateral cervical facet joint dislocation fracture treated by surgery. The authors recommend reduction and fixation surgery if the patient has an old dislocation fracture of the cervical spine.

This case report is very interesting paper, because there are not so many old cervical facet joint dislocation cases in clinical. This manuscript provides important information to the readers who faced on old cervical dislocation cases. The case presentation was suitable. The diagnosis of this case was appropriate. The surgical strategy was fine. The surgical outcome was excellent. The discussion section was understandable. I have a few comments on this paper;

1. The readers might be interesting about surgical findings and reduction
technique. Did the authors have any difficulties in their reduction of facet joints? How much resections of facet joint did the authors perform before reduction? If the author add these informations, it would be more helpful for readers.

2. If the author add axial view of MRI which is caused of radicular pain, it would be more helpful for readers.

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.