Reviewer’s report

Title: Lumbar intraspinal extradural arteriovenous malformation: a case report

Version: 1  Date: 3 February 2014

Reviewer: Toma Spiriev

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?: 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:

I read with interest the report of “Lumbar intraspinal extradural arteriovenous malformation: a case report” by Suntharalingam et al.

It represents the diagnostic workup of rare extradural AVM of the lumbar spine. However, the presentation of the case is lacking major details. The intraoperative image is not clear to distinguish the typical characteristics of AVM (as authors suggests in the case presentation). It would be good to provide a histopathological image of the specimen, and a better intraoperative image. There is no clear description of the intraoperative technique and findings: “At that abnormal arterialized, dilated, and tortuous vessels were found”? There is no description of the relation of the lesion to the nervous structures. Moreover, there is no description of the postoperative course of the case.
The style of manuscript, as well as the English level, should be corrected as well – there are inappropriate repetitions of some introductory words -“On the other hand” repeated numerous times, or inappropriate expressions: “In Marshman et al. …..” “In Han et al” etc.

Although the manuscript represents as an interesting and rare case it needs some revision. After a the revision it could considered again for publication

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

nothing to declare