Reviewer's report

**Title:** Surgical treatment of scoliosis in Treacher-Collins syndrome: a case report

**Version:** 3  **Date:** 7 August 2014

**Reviewer:** Simon Benedict Roberts

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:**

Notes to authors regarding minor revisions and language corrections:

1. Abstract conclusion – please consider changing ‘complications as the scoliosis progresses and results in severe’, to: ‘complications if the scoliosis progressed to cause severe thoracic distortion’.

2. Case presentation, paragraph 4 – please insert ‘(Figure 1)’ at the end of the first sentence describing the measurements of the thoracic curves. Also please review and amend the values/measurements of both thoracic curves as the values described in the first sentence of this paragraph are different to those displayed in the radiographs in the image Figure 1 – which ones are correct?

3. Case presentation, paragraph 5 – please consider changing ‘her scoliosis a decision’, to: ‘her scoliosis the decision’.
4. Case presentation, paragraph 5 – Please consider changing ‘The MRI of the spine’, to: ‘The spinal MRI’. Also please consider changing ‘rigid as evident on’, to: ‘rigid as evidenced by supine...’

5. Case presentation, paragraph 6 – please add ‘vertebrae’ after ‘from T2 to L4’. Please amend ‘use of pedicle hook/sublaminar wire/screw and...’, to: ‘use of pedicle hooks, sublaminar wires and pedicle screws, and rod...’.

6. Case presentation, paragraph 7 – Please amend the last sentence from ‘The patient was transferred to the...’, to; ‘Postoperatively, the patient was transferred to the...’.

7. Case presentation, paragraph 8 – Please consider changing ‘There was no need of non-invasive ventilation’, to: ‘Non-invasive ventilation was not required’.

8. Discussion, paragraph 2 – please consider changing ‘5q32 while type 2 by’, to: ‘5q32, whereas type 2 is caused by...’.

9. Conclusion – Please consider changing ‘Scoliosis correction is indicated’, to: ‘Surgical correction of scoliosis is indicated...’.

10. Finally, many thanks for submitting your interesting case report, I very much enjoyed reviewing your article.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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

Declaration of competing interests:

No financial competing interests. I wish to declare that I have previously co-authored a paper with the senior author of this article under review, though I have no further non-financial competing interests.