Reviewer's report

Title: Elderly onset intramedullary epidermoid cyst: a case report

Version: 4
Date: 4 September 2014

Reviewer: Gabriel Alcala

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?: No

Is the case report persuasive?: No

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:

Very good article
I suggest to cite the corresponding references where you wrote "Most reports agree that evacuation of cyst contents is a suitable surgical procedure for intramedullary epidermoid cysts. We chose the internal decompression by evacuation of cyst contents as a surgical procedure because the cyst wall tightly adhered to surrounding spinal cord tissue. Several previous reports described that neurological recovery was obtained by the simple evacuation of cyst contents. In this context, our choice of treatment was appropriate, at least in part. Indeed, the present patient showed marked recovery of muscle power of her lower extremities. One of the possible shortcomings of cyst contents evacuation is the recurrence of neurological symptoms induced by regrowth of the cyst."
Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests