Reviewer’s report

Title: Avulsion fracture of the lesser tuberosity in a tennis player: A case report

Version: 2 Date: 28 August 2011

Reviewer number: 2

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The title is supposed to be inappropriate. The fragment was too small for titling a avulsion fracture of the lesser tuberosity. “Incomplete joint side tear of the subscapularis tendon with a small fragment in a tennis player” is supposed to be proper for the title of this article.

Information regarding preoperative physical findings is insufficient. The range of motion of internal rotation with the arm at the side, internal and external rotation with the arm abducted 90 degrees, internal rotation with the arm 90 degrees flexion, and horizontal flexion, painful phase while playing tennis (take-back, hitting a ball, follow-through, e.g.), pain provocation tests (forced horizontal extension, forced horizontal flexion, forced abduction- external rotation, e.g.), other clinical tests for the subscapularis such as belly press test and bear hug test, joint laxity tests, and joint instability tests such as anterior apprehension test and posterior jerk test should be presented.

Preoperative and postoperative clinical evaluation score such as UCLA score should be showed.

Why did it take so long time (2 years) to return to tennis?

Discussion about the etiology of this injury was insufficient. There is a possibility of a antero-superior impingement during follow-through phase, besides a avulsion injury on contraction of the subscapularis during take-back or on hitting a ball. A causal relationship with posterior shoulder tightness and poor stroke kinesis should be mentioned.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable