Reviewer's report

Title: Distribution of ossified spinal lesions in patients with severe ossification of the posterior longitudinal ligament and prediction of ossification at each segment based on the cervical OP index classification: A multicenter study (JOSL CT study)

Version: 0 Date: 04 Feb 2018

Reviewer: Vitor Dalto

Reviewer's report:

General Impression: Well-conducted, well-written, interesting study with pertinent and appropriate conclusions. Study pathology is important, especially in Asian countries.

I will comment on the article in order of each session:

Abstract:
line 197 - Consider the possibility of removing the word "cervical".
Although it seems obvious to those who already know the study, for those who start reading the Abstract, this phrase was confused. It may be more appropriate to use only the term "OPLL" (considering the whole column) instead of "cervical OPLL".

Introduction - Appropriate.
No questions or suggestions.

Materials and methods - Well described.
No questions or suggestions.

Statistics - I consider it necessary to include the reference of which regression method was used.

Results - Extensive data, however, well described.
No questions or suggestions.
Discussion - Interesting, well developed. It promotes a good correlation with existing studies. No questions or suggestions.

Conclusion - Adequate. No questions or suggestions.

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors. Yes

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors. Yes

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors. Yes

**Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?**
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors. I recommend additional statistical review

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript: Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests**
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?
2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?
3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal

Do you want to get recognition for reviewing this manuscript?

Add a record of this review to track and showcase your reviewing expertise across the world’s journals. Signing up is quick, easy and free!

Yes