Reviewer’s report

Title: Cervical spine alignment following surgery for adolescent idiopathic scoliosis (AIS): a preto- post analysis of 81 patients.

Version: 0 Date: 07 Aug 2018

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer's report:

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS: To view the full report from the academic peer reviewer, please see the attached file.

REVIEWER COMMENTS FROM REPORT: The overall impression is that the study is well executed, with strick in/exclusion and well described methodology. The authors evaluate cervical spinal alignment and balance changes after AIS surgery, in relation to other regional and global alignment changes.

In the results no data on in/exclusion are provided, it is unclear why categorization to <-5,>5 has been performed and figures provide limited information.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:
Results: please provide data on number and arguments for exclusion. Is the risk of selection bias?

Statistical analysis: it is unclear why categorization to <-5,>5 has been performed. With this categorization of continuous data, there is loss of information. It seems that regression analysis using the continous paramters (SVA and TK) could have been more appropriate to find relations with postoperative sagittal cervical alignment changes.

- Figures provide limited information because only changes are shown. I suggest to use the pre-post op data. Axis information is missing.

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS:
See above.

Reviewer's report:Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

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

No
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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

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

Acceptable

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