Reviewer’s report

Title: The surgical treatment strategies for thoracolumbar spinal fractures with ankylosing spondylitis: A case report

Version: 0 Date: 13 Jun 2019

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer's report:

PEER REVIEWER ASSESSMENTS:

RELEVANCE - Does this case report make a contribution to medical knowledge, have educational value, or highlight the need for a change in clinical practice or diagnostic/prognostic approaches?
No, the findings of this report are well known and/or similar reports have already been published

CASE DESCRIPTION - Are the details of the case sufficiently well described to understand the patient's symptoms and course of treatment?
Yes, the description of the case is sufficient

DIAGNOSIS/INTERPRETATION - Based on the facts presented, are the diagnosis, interpretation, and course of treatment medically sound?
Yes, the work described is medically sound

DISCUSSION OF THE CASE - Does the discussion appropriately analyse the importance of the findings and their relevance to future understanding of disease processes, diagnosis or treatment? Has an adequate literature review pertinent to the case been included?
Yes, the case is discussed fully in the context of the literature

OVERALL MANUSCRIPT POTENTIAL - Could an appropriately REVISED version of this work represent a technically sound contribution?
Probably - with minor revisions

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS:

GENERAL COMMENTS: authors described nicely three cases of TL spinal fractures in patients with AS. There was one case with a screw not in a ideal position, but they did not mention about a revision surgery. Finally, they should repeat less the term Ankylosing Spondylitis and use the abbreviation AS instead.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:
As I mentioned, the three cases are well described and discussed. The conclusions are ok. However, it is well accepted in the medical literature that posterior fusion for AS is the ideal treatment for TL
fractures.

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS:
Although the manuscript is well written and addressed properly the problem, it doesn't add too much to the current literature about this subject. May want to focus on any aspect of these cases that are particularly unique.

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

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

Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests
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