Reviewer’s report

Title: Do the SRS-22 self-image and mental health domain scores reflect the degree of asymmetry of the back in Adolescent Idiopathic Scoliosis?

Version: 0 Date: 03 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Jean Claude De Mauroy

Reviewer's report:

Thanks to the authors to consider the scoliosis surgery beyond the Cobb angle.

Background

165-66: The term "associating" seems to be more accurate than "resulting" because there is no correlation between Cobb angulation and surface topography.

169: Such a phrase could make believe that scoliosis surgery is a cosmetic surgery. In some countries, cosmetic surgery is not supported by health services.

180: with AIS of more than 70° (Weinstein 2003)

Methodology

1117 Mean Cobb angle was 66°, and below 70° the functional and aesthetic repercussion is weak

1141-2 The figure legends should be included in the manuscript file, immediately following the references, rather than being a part of the figure file. The following information should be provided for each figure: figure number (in sequence, using Arabic numerals - i.e. Figure 1, 2, 3 etc); short title of figure (maximum 15 words); detailed legend of up to 300 words.

1181 At 14, a teenager is unable to project himself into the future; Self image and mental health are very disrupted, even without scoliosis. For instance item 4"If you had to spend the rest of your life with your back as it is right now, how would you feel about it?"

Discussion

1202-6 Yes for adults and in case of progressive scoliosis. The surgery at 14 years and at 66° is a prevention of these problems.

1459 The strobe statement is to be cancelled
General remark

In teen age, if one considers the aesthetic aspect, it is better to develop treatment by braces that act directly on the torso. Surgery is legitimate to stabilize scoliosis due to the progression risk and functional impairment in adulthood. X-ray, surface topography and questionnaire are complementary. A surgeon does not operate an X-ray or a questionnaire...

Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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