Reviewer’s report

Title: When and How to Discontinue Bracing Treatment in Adolescent Idiopathic Scoliosis. Results of a Survey.

Version: 0 Date: 22 Apr 2018

Reviewer: Manuel Rigo

Reviewer’s report:

This is a paper with limited interest due to the current State of the Art. The objective of the study is of interest indeed, however the study design, looking for consensus among specialists is not a proper one for the current knowledge on this issue. In fact, it is at least surprising that the authors submit their paper to a publication, Scoliosis and Spinal Disorders, which has recently published the 2016 SOSORT Guidelines, where this issue is addressed (Recommendations on bracing. Table 10. Recommendations 12 and 13). It is true that when the authors of the paper decided to start the study, the SOSORT guidelines were not published yet in Scoliosis and Spinal Disorders, but these same recommendations about when and how to stop bracing were already made in the SOSORT Guidelines 2011, published in 2012 (recommendations 9 and 10).

Thus, authors should be aware about the current knowledge and throughout this study they could ask whether the SOSORT recommendations, based on multinational consensus, are in accordance with the current practice in their own country, and then, considering the big effort in realizing this type of study, submit the paper in a National or in a Continental publication, but not in Scoliosis and Spinal Disorders.

Level of interest

Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article of limited interest

Quality of written English

Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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Charging honoraria for medical advise to two companies fabricating braces: Ortholutions (Germany), Align Clinic (USA)

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