



March 6, 2014

Dear Dr. Wang,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 8250\_Review.docx).

**Title:** Advances in Treatment of Cervical Rheumatoid: Less Surgery and Less Morbidity

**Author:** Grant Mallory, Sasha Halasz, Michelle Clarke

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Orthopedics*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 8250

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

(1) We have amended the technical discussion of C1-2 instrumentation techniques to incorporate the suggestions of reviewer #1. A discussion of high riding vertebral arteries and the difficulty with fixation of two vertebra with Magerl's transarticular screws is included.

(2) We have changed the way the risk of vertebral artery injury was discussed with both C2 pedicle and transarticular screws to a more balanced representation and provide further supporting literature on their misplacement rates.

(3) We have changed the original conclusion and discussion of endoscopic techniques to emphasize the need for prospective study to better determine their roles and added additional literature supporting their use as requested by Reviewer #1.

(4) Figures 2 and 3 have been modified to show more clear examples of atlantoaxial subluxation and pannus resolution after fusion per the suggestion of Review #1.

(5) A cut-off for PADI for lateral radiographs, discussion of intramedullary high signal intensity, and additional citation for C1-2 instrumentation have been incorporated along with the other references suggested by Reviewer #2.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Orthopedics*.

Sincerely yours,

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