PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Cases

Manuscript NO: 64392

Title: Surgical resection of intradural extramedullary tumors in the atlantoaxial spine via a posterior approach

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer’s code: 05491705

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MSc, PhD

Professional title: Assistant Professor, Director, Physiotherapist

Reviewer’s Country/Territory: Greece

Author’s Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-05-03

Reviewer chosen by: Ze-Mao Gong

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-07-27 23:03

Reviewer performed review: 2021-08-01 21:57

Review time: 4 Days and 22 Hours

Scientific quality

[ ] Grade A: Excellent  [ ] Grade B: Very good  [ Y] Grade C: Good
[ ] Grade D: Fair  [ ] Grade E: Do not publish

Language quality

[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing  [ Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing
[ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing  [ ] Grade D: Rejection

Conclusion

[ ] Accept (High priority)  [ ] Accept (General priority)
[ Y] Minor revision  [ ] Major revision  [ ] Rejection

Re-review

[ Y] Yes  [ ] No
SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS
This is a meticulously written paper, taking into account the safety of tumour resection with a posterior surgical approach technique, as well as a thorough patient follow up with multiple outcome measures and for a significant amount of time post-operatively. The 2 pictures are describing a significant improvement in sagittal Cervical spine posture post fusion surgery. This does not seem to be the case in general though, as in the abstract (and within text) it is stated that: “there was no statistically significant difference between the preoperative and last follow-up C1-2 Cobb angle and C2-7 Cobb angle (P>0.05).” Under this prism, the legends of Figures 1 and 2 need to be revised accordingly. Lines 151, 152: Replace ‘occipit’ with occiput Lines 189-191: Please revise the statement: “To the best of our knowledge, this is the first study that focused on the one-stage posterior approach surgical treatment of IDEM tumors in this region”, as other similar studies exist, for instance: 1. https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/21178841/ 2. https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/21495815/