

Open peer review report 1

Reviewer: Mitsuhiro Enomoto, Tokyo Medical and Dental University, Japan.

Comments to the authors:

In this manuscript, the authors retrospectively reported surgical treatment and curative effect analysis in 326 children with tethered cord syndrome. The report shows valuable children's data with high efficiency after microsurgery. However, several explanations are missing to understand the results and MRI images.

Is this study approved by institutional ethics committee?

These data obtained a single institute or not? Please mention a detail.

Authors mentioned "early diagnosis" in abstract or conclusion in the text. Please mention details when patients diagnosed with tethered cord syndrome before surgery. Authors also mention relations between early diagnosis and curative effect.

In figure 1 and 5: Please note a condition of MRI in each image (e.g. T1-weighted). It will be better to point affected lesions with arrows for readers.

In figure 2: Authors mentioned "Patients were followed up from 3 months to 3 years" in the text. The data compare scores between pre-surgery and final observation points after surgery or other time point? Please mention details how to compare pre and post-surgery.

In figure 4: The bar graph is not appropriate to understand distribution of the data. Scatter plot with line at mean average will be useful.

In figure 5: it will be better to show pictures during microsurgery (pre-surgery and post-surgery) if possible.