December 24, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 6577-review.doc).

Title: Acute complications of spinal cord injuries
Author: Ellen Merete Hagen
Name of Journal: *World Journal of Orthopaedics*
ESPS Manuscript NO: 6577

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. Why only reviews were considered in the current manuscript? This has definitely limited the outcomes of this review.
    - The revised version has omitted this limitation and all relevant publications have been considered.
2. Please add the word level after injury in the abstract. " …stimuli below the injury"
    - The word has been added as suggested by the referee.
3. Delete the phrase ". after cervical SCI", "….in the long term after cervical SCI"
    - The words have been omitted as suggested by the referee.
4. Tromboembolism; please check spelling
    - The spelling has been corrected.
5. General conclusion need to reflect the main findings.
    - The section has been rewritten.

Introduction

1. Please replace the term quadriplegia with tetraplegia.
    - The term quadriplegia has been replaced with tetraplegia.
2. Please provide a clear purpose why the authors would like to review the complications during acute phase of SCI.
    - The following sentence has been added: "Knowledge of possible complications during the acute phase is important because they may be life-threatening or may lead to prolonged rehabilitation."

Methods

1. Cardiovascular disease, please provide percentage occurrence of these events and their prevalence after SCI.
    - The paragraph has been rewritten.
2. The statement "othostatic hypotension…" is written in the middle between two paragraphs and has no connections, please delete or consider relocate the statement.
    - The paragraph has been rewritten.
3. Please indent the starting of each new paragraph. It is hard to tell when new paragraphs start.
    - My apologies. This has been revised as suggested by the referee.
4. There is too much redundancy in the section cardiovascular, please consider concise the whole section.
    - The section has been rewritten.

5. The authors throughout the manuscript kept referring to the guidelines for each acute medical condition. Please consider listing them briefly in addition to the reference.
    - My apologies. This has been revised as suggested by the referee.
6. Cardiac pain… and rise in troponin.. please provide more details about the link between both conditions.
    - The section has been rewritten.
7. In the temperature regulation, you need to provide citations and reference previous work. When you say susceptible…? It is unclear susceptible to what?
    - The section has been rewritten.
8. Again list the prevalence of each medical condition and briefly list the most important guidelines.
    - My apologies. This has been revised as suggested by the referee.
9. Respiratory complications; delete the phrase "cervical SCI resulting in", and s to "respiratory functions"
    - This has been revised as suggested by the referee.
10. The statement "IF C4 tetraplegia…respiration" needs to rephrase.
    - This has been revised as suggested by the referee.
11. Thromboembolism; replace the word patients with individuals
    - This has been changed it according to the suggestion by the referee.
12. 15 and 5%, respectively, either add "in" or "after"
    - "within" has been added to the sentence.
13. The incidence of what? Please clarify.
    - The section has been rewritten.
14. Please don't say SCI patients; you need to say individuals with SCI.
    - This has been changed this according to the suggestion by referee.
15. The surgery paragraph needs to be relocated, is surgery considered one of the acute complications?
    - The paragraph has been relocated.
16. What about musculoskeletal and metabolic complications?
    - These complications have been added to the paper as suggested by the referee.
17. You need to expand on the spasticity section and mention the shock stage.
    - The section on spasticity has been expanded as well as the shock stage.
18. The review needs future recommendations and succinct conclusions reflections the basic findings of the review. It is always nice to highlight the gap in the current knowledge.
    - The section has been rewritten.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing my manuscript in the *World Journal of Orthopaedics*.

Sincerely yours,