

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-53271

Date: 13/08/2025

Title: Long-Term Functional Recovery Following Botulinum Toxin Type A for Gastrocnemius Hypertonia After Lumbar Laminectomy: A Case Report

Recommendation:

Accept as it is ☐☐☒☐☐

Accept after minor revision ☐☐☐☐

Accept after major revision ☐☐☐☐☐

Do not accept (*Reasons below*) ☐☐☐

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	✓			
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity		✓		
Significance	✓			

Reviewer Name: Sakshi Jaju

Date: 13/08/2025

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

This case report is about a 23-year-old man who had muscle tightness and pain in his right calf after back surgery (L2–L3 laminectomy). Normal treatments didn't work, so doctors gave him botulinum toxin type A (BoNT-A) injections in the calf muscle using ultrasound for accuracy. He also followed a special rehab program. His pain and stiffness improved in two weeks, he started light jogging in three months, and after two years, he had full recovery without needing more injections or having side effects.

Strengths:

1. Clear case story with a timeline.
2. Long follow-up showing lasting results.
3. Ultrasound used for accurate injection.
4. Rehab included for better recovery.
5. Supported with references from medical studies.

Weaknesses:

1. Only one patient—can't be sure it works for everyone.
2. No comparison with other treatments.
3. Limited discussion on possible side effects.
4. No detailed movement or gait measurements.
5. Doesn't mention treatment cost.

Overall Assessment:

A well-written case showing how BoNT-A plus rehab can help after surgery-related calf muscle problems. Promising results, but bigger studies are needed.

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Manuscript accepted for the publication.