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REVIEWER'S COMMENT

The authors are to be congratulated for their excellent work. The study results support the efficacy of the method, and the many advantages of not having to perform a fusion in these trauma cases speak for themselves. Any surgeon who has been doing the same will be happy to read this re-

port and feel confirmed in their strategy. Once again a challenging new concept of spinal management has emanated from the Spinal Unit in Adelaide. Although the retrospective aspect of the study does not weaken it by any means, I hope that the authors, or someone else, will complete the work by performing a prospective, randomised trial comparing fused and unfused cases. The same outcome score should then be used and special attention given to the worker's compensation issue.

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