Response to comments: Foot drop: An unusual complication of epidural anaesthesia in a child

Sir,

We read with interest the comments on our published article. Regarding the points raised, we would like to provide the following explanation.

The authors argue that the needle cannot damage all the nerve roots of common peroneal and tibial nerves as nerve conduction studies (NCS) showed abnormalities. However, abnormalities on NCS in common peroneal and tibial nerves do not imply that all the nerve roots have been damaged. Involvement of a few of the roots can cause abnormalities in NCS as well as a varied combination of sensory and motor involvement. Such an injury can be caused by a needle injury or a haematoma.

The authors have explained a detailed mechanism of how the foot-drop could have been due to sciatic nerve injury by the tourniquet. However, the authors have not noted that the surgery (and hence the tourniquet) was done on the left lower limb while the foot drop occurred on the right side.

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Conflicts of interest
There are no conflicts of interest.

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