Reply to Dr. Rekate's comments on our article "Acute ventriculoperitoneal shunt malfunction following opening of the spinal subarachnoid space: a case series"

R. Shane Tubbs · W. Jerry Oakes

Received: 24 June 2009 / Published online: 24 July 2009
© Springer-Verlag 2009

Dear Editor:

We would like to thank Dr. Rekate for his interest in our paper [1]. To address Dr. Rekate's two points we offer the following:

- (1) The word "siphon" was used once in our abstract and was not used in the mechanical sense but rather in a colloquial manner to simply mean to "convey, draw or pass".
- (2) Each of the ventricular catheters from the patients reported were placed in a standard position and in no

patient was intracranial pressure found to be negative based on intraoperative testing, which is routine for all of our shunt revisions.

Reference

1. Tubbs RS, Pugh J, Cakpo-Satchivi L, Wellons JC III, Blount JP, Oakes WJ (2009) Acute ventriculoperitoneal shunt malfunction following opening of the spinal subarachnoid space: a case series. Childs Nerv Syst 25:599–600

R. S. Tubbs (✉) · W. J. Oakes
Section of Pediatric Neurosurgery, Children's Hospital,
ACC 400, 1600 7th Ave South,
Birmingham, AL 35233, USA
e-mail: rstubbs@uab.edu