Reviewer’s report

Title: Pulmonary lymphangioleiomyomatosis and systemic lupus erythematosus in a menopausal woman

Version: 0 Date: 07 Aug 2017

Reviewer: Elizabeth Hyjek

Reviewer’s report:

The authors report a case of menopausal woman with lupus erythematosus (SLE) and lupus nephritis who subsequently developed pulmonary lymphangiomatosis (PLAM). Association of SLE and LAM is rare, with only a few cases reported in the literature, including LAM associated with tuberous sclerosis complex (TSC) or sporadic LAM. There is accumulating evidence in the last few years of a key role of mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR) pathway in pathogenesis of SLE. There is also emerging evidence of a strong association between mutations in tuberous sclerosis complex (TSC) genes (TSC1 and TSC2), activation of the mTOR pathway and development of lymphangiomatosis (LAM). Hence activation of mTOR pathway may be a converging pathway in pathogenesis of both SLE and LAM suggesting that patients with SLE may be at risk/susceptible for development of LAM. Thus association of SLE and LAM may be not just a coincidence but linked by similar pathomechanism with therapeutical implications in management of patients with both SLE and LAM using mTOR pathway inhibitors. In summary, this case report emphasizes association between SLE and PLAM and contributes to our understanding of a link between those two entities with therapeutical implications in management of the patients with SLE and PLAM.

Comments:

1. The case report has many grammatical errors which need to be addressed and corrected.

2. The authors should provide more comprehensive discussion of an association between SLE and PLAM with reference to the literature

3. The authors should also discuss involvement of mTOR pathway activation in pathogenesis of SLE and PLAM with therapeutical implications of using mTOR pathway inhibition in management of patients with SLE and PLAM.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

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Yes

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Not relevant to this manuscript

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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