Author's response to reviews

Title: Pulseless Electrical Activity During Electroconvulsive Therapy: A Case Report

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear Dr Henderson,

Thank you your patience as I prepared the revised version of my case report. Here are the changes that have been made to the document as described below:

Reviewer 1: Tom K Birkenhager
1. The term “Depression” has been replaced by “Major Depression” (pg 3)
2. The old references have been removed. (pg 3)
3. The abbreviation PEA for pulseless electrical activity has been removed and only PE has been used (pg 3)
4. Yes the patient was simultaneously on 3 anti-depressants (pg 3)
5. “A week into her admission” has been replaced by saying “A week after admission” (pg 4)
6. The patient’s height has now been mentioned in feet and inches 5’4” instead of 64 inches. (pg 4)
7. The dosing used was: 0.5 seconds doubling up to 8 seconds duration, 20 Hz, 800 mA, 0.3 ms electric stimulations (pg 4)
8. Continuation of ECT after placement of IVC filter was not considered as “Catatonia or near-catatonia, as in this case, are known to resolve as quickly as with single treatment, requiring no consequent treatments, now even months after the initial procedure”. Also, patient has since returned to fully independent living in the community. (pg 5)
9. Report of reports of severe bradycardia and asystole after anesthesia with succinylcholine before ECT (refs: Birkenhäuser et al, J ECT 2010; Russ & Bailine, J ECT 2004) have been added (pg 5)

And further revisions included:
Reviewer 2: Kazumasa Suzuki

1. The words “preoperative Doppler” have been incorporated in the abstract and the main manuscript. The word screening has been removed.(page 2 and 7)

2. The case report of wrist fracture by cuff method has been included in the discussion (Baethge C, Bschor T. Wrist fracture in a patient undergoing electroconvulsive treatment monitored using the “cuff” method. Eur Arch Psychiatry Clin Neurosci. 2003 Jun;253(3):160-2 (page 6)

Lastly, I have included the Psychiatrist involved, Dr Sander Koyfman as the 3rd Author for his help in preparing the revised manuscript.

Sincerely,

Arun Kalava, MD