Reviewer's report

Title: Resting tachycardia, a warning sign in anorexia nervosa: case report

Version: 1  Date: 15 April 2004

Reviewer number: 2

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Minor Essential Revisions

This paper would be enhanced if documentation of a 24 hour Holter confirmed persistent sinus tachycardia until adequate antibiotic treatment was completed. The case report would also be enhanced by excluding other causes of resting tachycardia in this patient (hypocalcemia, hypomagnesemia, hypovolemia with BUN, Creatine, and urine osmolarity measurements). The presence of prolongation of QTc on resting 12-lead ECG suggests electrolyte disorder which may not have been evaluated on a standard chemistry panel. In addition, the presence of sepsis / bacteremia (even without fever) would likely produce tachycardia - were blood cultures obtained in this patient and were they positive? Also, patients with anorexia can present with LV dysfunction with associated tachycardia - was an echocardiogram performed in this patient? Rehydration and correction of electrolyte disorders may have significantly improved LV function and ameliorated the tachycardia.

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No