Author's response to reviews

Title: Clinical presentation of abdominal tuberculosis in HIV seronegative adults

Authors:

Cengiz Bolukbas (drcengizbolukbas@hotmail.com)
Fusun F Bolukbas (fusunbol@yahoo.ca)
Tulin Kendir (eylul19@hotmail.com)
Remzi A Dalay (remzidalay@att.net)
Nihat Akbayir (akbayirn@hotmail.com)
Mehmet H Sokmen (hmsokmen@hotmail.com)
Ali T Ince (alince@superonline.com)
Mithat Guran (mithatguran@yahoo.com)
Erkan Ceylan (derkanceylan@yahoo.com)
Guray Kilic (gurayk61@hotmail.com)
Oya Ovunc (oyaovunc@ekolay.net)

Version: 2 Date: 13 May 2005

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May 13th, 2005

Dear Editor

Thanks for your attention that you have paid to our manuscript (MS: 1275370683621661) entitled as “Gastroenterologic Profile Of Extrapulmonary Tuberculosis With Different Faces”. Please find attached manuscript that revised in the light of reviewer comments and changed formally as requested. The changes were provided with a point-by-point description at below:

General
1- The title has been changed as ‘Clinical presentation of abdominal tuberculosis in HIV seronegative adults’.

Methods
1- The term of ‘extra-pulmonary TB’ has been replaced with the term of ‘abdominal TB’ throughout the article.
2- In method section, study protocol and grouping of the patients were clarified and the numbers in each group were deleted from this section.
3- The term ‘non-surgical abdominal pain’ for group I has been replaced with ‘non-specific abdominal pain’ throughout the article.
4- The term ‘IBD resembling’ for group III has been replaced with ‘alteration in bowel habit’ throughout the article.
5- Instead of the term ‘PPD’, the term ‘tuberculin skin test’ has been used throughout the article.
6- PCR method was IS6110-based in-house polymerase chain reaction protocol and this method was mentioned in method section.
7- ‘Club sandwich’ and ‘sliced bread signs’ terms in abdominal US have been referenced with a brief explanatory note.
8- In case of suggestion of pulmonary TB in chest x ray (infiltration or consolidation, nodularity, calcification, cavitary lesion, and fibrocalcific scar in lung parenchyma, pleural effusion, hilar or mediastinal lymphadenopathy ), further investigations for pulmonary TB were done and this explanation was specified in methods section.
9- Microbiologic definitive diagnosis based on to be shown of AFB by culture or by both smear and PCR positivities.

Results
1- ‘How many patient had normal ESR’ was explained in this section.
2- The numbers in each group were placed in this section.

Tables
Table 1
1- ‘The duration of symptoms’ has been given as ‘mean + SD’.
2- The term ‘personal history for TB’ was renamed as ‘previous history of TB’.

Table 2
1- ESR, CRP, WBC, Hct and Hb results have been given as ‘mean + SD’.
2- The term ‘sequela lesion’ was replaced with the term ‘lesion consistent with prior TB’.
3- The term ‘abdominal US’ was corrected as ‘abdominal US abnormality’.

Table 3
1- Data for age, disease duration, temperature and response to therapy duration have been given as ‘mean + SD’.
2- The term ‘exitus’ was replaced with the term ‘death’.
3-P value of less than 0.05 was considered to indicate the statistical significance in between groups. This was mentioned in the table.

Table 4
1- Data for WBC, ESR, PPD have been given as ‘mean + SD’.
3- P value of less than 0.05 was considered to indicate the statistical significance in between groups. This was mentioned in the table.

Formatting checklist
1- Removing all unnecessary capitalisations.
2- Using initials to refer each author’s contribution in Author Contributions section.
3- Correcting the minor grammatical errors.

Corresponding Author:
Cengiz Bolukbas

Yenisehir mah. 4. sok. Altiparmak apt. Kat.2 Daire 3
63100 Yenisehir/ Sanliurfa TURKEY
Phone:+90 414 3155250
Fax: +90 414 3151181
e-mail: drcengizbolukbas@hotmail.com