Reviewer’s report

Title: Should there be a standardised approach to the diagnostic workup of suspected adult encephalitis? A case series from Australia

Version: 2 Date: 6 September 2010

Reviewer: Christian G. Bien

Reviewer’s report:

Even though retrospective in nature and thereby limited, this is a valuable step towards a more standardized assessment of patients with an encephalitic syndrome focused on infectious causes. It is suggested that the authors refer to the study Gable MS, Gavali S, Radner A, Tilley DH, Lee B, Dyner L, Collins A, Dengel A, Dalmau J, Glaser CA. Anti-NMDA receptor encephalitis: report of ten cases and comparison with viral encephalitis. Eur J Clin Microbiol Infect Dis 2009;28:1421-1429 and discuss the very relevant differential diagnosis of autoimmune encephalitis in cases of "suspected viral encephalitis".

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests