Author’s response to reviews

Title: Influenza A H1N1 septic shock in a patient with systemic lupus erythematosus. A case report

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Version: 3 Date: 31 October 2011

Author’s response to reviews:

Date: 31/10/2011

Dear Editor-in-Chief,

Following previous communication, we send you the revised version of our manuscript entitled: “INFLUENZA A H1N1 SEPTIC SHOCK IN A PATIENT WITH SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS. A CASE REPORT”.

Concerning observations by reviewer Jozelio Carvalho, we state that:
1. Both suggested references were included in the reference list.
2. All minor revisions (e.g. explanation of abbreviations, inclusion of laboratory values) were incorporated.
3. One reference was added concerning long lasting viral persistence in immunocompromised patients.
4. The paper was literally reviewed by a British Professor in English Literature

Concerning observations by reviewer Giacomo Grasselli, we state that:
1. Major compulsory revisions were made according to reviewer’s questions.
2. All minor revisions were made.
3. A figure of chest CT is available; however, we did not provide one because of the lack of pathologic lesions.
4. The usual dose of oseltamivir, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention/Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, published in 2011, is 150mg/day. This was the initial dose administered while the patient was in the ward. However, during ICU hospitalization, oseltamivir was increased to 300mg/day. This has been suggested to have an additional benefit in critically ill patients, although there is a lack of randomized clinical trials.
5. Concerning normal viral clearance, it is known that rt-PCR for influenza A/H1N1 virus in BAL specimens may be positive for weeks or even months. Moreover, in the present patient, viral clearance could be extended because of reasons that are clearly stated in the Discussion.

6. The manuscript has been reviewed by an English philologist, concerning linguistic corrections.

All changes and revisions are bold and underlined in the manuscript. Finally, we would like to inform you that we can provide an extremely detailed (on daily basis) flow sheet concerning patient’s laboratory values throughout her hospitalization.

Yours sincerely,

Panagiota Boura
Professor in Internal Medicine and Clinical Immunology