Reviewer’s report

Title: Predictors of the development of myocarditis and acute renal failure in patients with leptospirosis: An observational study

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Reviewer: Vedat Turhan

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Major Compulsory Revisions: There are various documented classical data which has been already stated some predictors of the important complications (myocarditis, renal failure etc.) of leptospirosis in the medical literature. But Dassanayake’s this study reports “only oliguria, jaundice and arrhytmia are strong predictors of severe leptospirosis”. These results may strengthening physician’s hand especially for evaluation of the leptospirosis cluster cases at the outbreak times….

Moreover, authors kindly invited to discussion like that ………the “long-held view, especially in the past, that severe leptospirosis is equivalent to icteric leptospirosis” may not always be correct. Weil’s disease is regarded as a severe course of leptospirosis, although it needs to be stated that anicteric leptospirosis can also have a severe course, and can result in various complications and death. Leptospirosis has to be considered as a cause of multiple organ dysfunctions with a high mortality rate mainly when respiratory, cardiovascular, renal or neurological failures are present. In a case series reported from Turkiye, only 2 of our 22 leptospirosis cases had an icteric course. (Turhan V, Atasoyu EM, Kucukardali Y, Polat E, Cesur T, Cavuslu S. Leptospirosis presenting as severe rhabdomyolysis and pulmonary haemorrhage. J Infect 2005; 52: 1-2). This is in agreement generally with the literature, in which anicteric leptospirosis represents 90% of all leptospirosis cases [Vinetz JM. Leptospirosis. Curr Opin Infect Dis 2001;14: 527-8].

So, rarely but certainly it is possible to see unicteric and also severe leptospirosis cases.

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'.