Reviewer's report

Title: Sarcina ventriculi in blood: the first documented report since 1872

Version: 4 Date: 17 February 2013

Reviewer: Martin Laass

Reviewer's report:

Most of the objections were overcome. Especially I appreciate the explanation for the patient's susceptibility. There remain some minor essential revisions:

1. There are some, not mentioned, changes: The abstract was changed and shortened. Now it contains almost only background informations which belongs in the background part of the article.

2. Citation of Dr Bastians article is still wrong. page 3, line 16!

3. Thank you for more detailed information about the 16S rRNA sequence identification. Please add the reference strain of S. ventriculi you used. Please give the name of the laboratory performing the analysis. You write that the sequence has 100% homology to S. ventriculi. You should also mentioned that this is specific for this germ.

4. page 6, line 24: "triggering gut inflammation in CLD patients is not yet known, it can be hypnotized that". you surely didn't want to say this.

5. The figures legend is much clearer now. This case report would profit from a higher resolution of the picture B so the shape of the germs is visible.

Please regard my effort with this case report not as nitpicking but more as appreciation of the importance of this first case report of invasion of S. ventriculi into the blood stream. It absolutely should be published but in the best version.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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