Reviewer’s report

Title: Characterisation of inflammatory response, coagulation, and radiological findings in acute Katayama syndrome: a report of three cases at the Medical University of Vienna, Austria

Version: 2
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Reviewer: Elopy Sibanda

Reviewer’s report:

This report is well written, it addresses import challenges in the differential diagnoses of presumed respiratory infections in a globalized world, where travellers from Europe can contract diseases that are to endemic to the temperate climates and yet become critically ill long after returning to Europe. It highlights the level of vigilance required of attending physicians across the world, a world where increasingly, the unexpected should be expected. The condition described has a long lag-phase is frequently confused with malaria, a tropical disease associated with high fever. This Austrian report is a timely update to the case series published by Doherty, Mood and Wright (BMJ 1996. 313; 1071-1072). While the report is neither original nor groundbreaking, it serves to remind the medical fraternity that whereas Katayama’s syndrome is relatively infrequent, it nevertheless still occurs and its frequency is likely to increase in tandem with increased global travel. I find the report useful and relevant to current practices in geographical medicine.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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