Reviewer's report

Title: Lemierres syndrome and genetic polymorphisms : Case Report

Version: 3 Date: 18 April 2006

Reviewer: Anthony Gordon

Reviewer's report:

General
In the article "Lemierre's syndrome and genetic polymorphisms: A case report", Dr J-M Constantin et al describe an interesting case of this rare condition and report some genetic polymorphisms found in the individual. The report is generally well written and suggests potential areas for further investigation to help understand the pathophysiology of this syndrome.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
• The authors must clarify that they have consent from the patient or guardian to publish this case report.

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)
• The abbreviations used in table 1 need explanation. There are also a few abbreviations used in the text that have not been explained.
• The identity of the individual SNPs assayed in some genes in table 1 (eg CD14, SPD, MIF, EPCR, FcGrII etc) need clarification.
• The authors should clarify that they have assayed a selection of previously reported SNPs, but many other potentially important reported candidate SNPs have not been examined.
• Please check the TLR5 identification in the legend of table 1.
• Page 6 second paragraph should read Toll like receptors (rather than “type”)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
• Lemierre’s syndrome is described as rare. Could the authors cite an incidence of the disease?
• On page 4 the CT scan should be described as revealing “fluid” rather than “water”.

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests