Author's response to reviews

Title: A fatal pseudo-tumour: disseminated basidiobolomycosis

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Author's response to reviews: see over
The Editor, BMC

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Dear Editor,

Herewith we submit our revised manuscript entitled “A fatal pseudo-tumour: disseminated basidiobolomycosis”, for the Case Reports section.

Reactions to the reviewers reports:

- Did the authors test the patients serum for the presence of B Ranarum specific antibodies by an immunodiffusion test?
  - We decided not to do that, because we already cultured B Ranarum.

- It will be very interesting to have also the photo of the colonic biopsy with the evidence of B. Ranarum in the same plate with that of the liver because there is no photo of the initial specimen.
  - With a picture of the colonic biopsy we think the reviewer menas the colon histology. WE don`t have a biopsy of the colon; a hemicolecotomy was performed and after patient`s death, we had autopsy material. The histology though looks exactly the same as the liver histology and that`s the reason why we decided not to publish the same pictures twice.

- A short discussion with the appropriate postoperative treatments and the possible clinical and pathological features that increase the suspicion for the lesion and contribute to the diagnosis will be of great value, though the article claims an educational aim.
  - In our article we explain that prolonged antifungal therapy is indicated with Itraconazole as the preferred drug, with two references. Furthermore, we try to explain that gastro-intestinal basidiobolomycosis usually is characterized by mild abdominal pain with histologically a characterizing Splendor Hooeppli phenomenon.

- The fatal outcome of the presented case is not similar with the one mentioned by the authors in Ref no 9, because Bigliazzi et al refer to bronchopleural basidiobolomycosis and mainly to an immunosuppressed patient. I think that comparison should be performed between similar cases (patients status, diagnostic procedures, treatment modalities and organ-system infections).
  - We changed that in the manuscript

Waiting for your decision we remain,

Yours sincerely,
on behalf of all authors

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