Reviewer's report

Title: Q fever endocarditis masquerading as Mixed cryoglobulinemia type II. A case report and review of the literature.

Version: 1 Date: 4 November 2005

Reviewer: Pierre-Edouard Fournier

Reviewer's report:

General

Rafailidis et al. describe in their manuscript an unusual case of Q fever endocarditis presenting with mixed cryoglobulinemia. The topic is of interest and the manuscript is well written.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

The manuscript should be reduced in length.

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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)

1) Case report: What gene target, primers and PCR technique were used to amplify C. burnetii, and from what specimen?

2) What is the overall duration of the doxycylin-hydroxychloroquin therapy? Five years? It is not clear from the statement "which was recently discontinued".

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests' below