Reviewer's report

Title: Primary muscular cystic hydatidosis: case report

Version: 1 Date: 16 October 2006

Reviewer: FABRIZIO BRUSCHI

Reviewer's report:

General
The Au. describe a case report of cystic echinococcosis localised in the skeletal muscle. The interest of the manuscript is mainly due to the serological and molecular approaches which help in making diagnosis.

The title should be changed in Muscular cystic echinococcosis: case report. This why, since a total body CT scanner was not performed to exclude other localizations, the Au. cannot state that the lesion observed is certainly primary. Furthermore, the fact that serum comes back to negativity after surgery might be a consequence of the elimination of the only cyst present in the host but also of the effects of albendazole treatment.

A brief comment on higher sensitivity of immunoblot compared to that of other tests used should be done.

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

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Page 3, Line 36: Ref. 16 and not 17;
Page 4, Lines 7 and 23: these References are not appropriate and should be changed with one general review on cystic echinococcosis such Ref. 1, for example.

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.