Reviewer's report

Title: Abscess of adrenal gland caused by disseminated subacute Nocardia farcinata pneumonia. A case report and mini-review of the literature

Version: 2 Date: 17 August 2009

Reviewer: Patricia Conville

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Minor Essential Revisions:

1) p 2 line 17 Meaning of “beginning lack of concentration” is unclear.
2) p 2 line 22 Verb tense is inconsistent with rest of paragraph.
3) p 3 line 4 Spelling of gentamicin and ceftriaxone is incorrect.
4) p 3 line 6 Meaning of “First examination” is unclear.
5) p 3 line 14 Do you mean “bronchopulmonary”? 
6) p. 3 line 18 Results of hormone level testing are not presented.
7) p 3 line 23 Results of pathologic analysis of adrenal tissue is not presented.
8) p 4 line 4 “Beaded” Gram-positive rods more accurately describes the organisms in the photograph and is suggestive of Nocardia species.
9) p 4 line 5 Insufficient information is provided concerning the identification of the isolate. How many bases were sequenced? What was the percent similarity of the sequence of the isolate with the type strain of N. farcinica?
10) p 5 line 11 Data on cases of pulmonary N. farcinica infection in the U.S. is from 1976 – much too old.
11) p 5 line 20 Change “possible” to “possibly”
12) p 5 line 23 The reference describes patients in Japan, the text should state this or this information should be deleted. It is not relevant to the case presented.
13) p 5 line 25 State that acquisition of Nocardia through the skin is usually the result of inoculation through traumatic injury.
14) p 6 line 8 “Determination of the IDENTIFICATION of N. species…”
15) p. 6 line 8 Molecular identification of Nocardia species is the most reliable method for identification.
16) p 6 line 16 Delete “especially”
17) p 6 line 23 spelling of amikacin
18) p 6 line 24 Give a reference for the use of third generation cephalosporin for CNS infections.
19) p 6 line 25 Change “intravenous” to “intravenously”.
20) p 6 line 26 Meaning of “reserve antibiotic” is unclear.

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**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