Reviewer's report

Title: Minimal change nephrotic syndrome in an 82 year old patient following a tetanus-diphteria-poliomyelitis-vaccination

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Reviewer: Timm H. Westhoff

Reviewer's report:

Clajus et al. describe the occurrence of minimal change nephrotic syndrome (MCNS) six weeks after vaccination for tetanus, diphtheria, and poliomyelitis in an 82-year old female.

The paper is well written.

The content of the paper may be of interest for the readers of BMC Nephrology. There are some anecdotal cases linking vaccination to MCNS. The present report, however, constitutes the first description of MCNS following vaccination for tetanus, diphtheria, and poliomyelitis.

Major Revisions:

1) The authors report on the coincidence of a vaccination procedure and the onset of MCNS. A causal relation may be assumed but it cannot be proven. Idiopathic MCNS is rare but not impossible in the elderly. Hence, it is of importance to exclude other potential reasons for secondary MCNS.

- The authors report on an occasional use of diclofenac. NSAID can cause MCNS. When did the patient use diclofenac the last time before the onset of edema? The authors should discuss this aspect.

- The authors report on makulopapulous exanthema of the feet and leg on admission. This aspect is not considered in the discussion. What time after vaccination did the exanthema occur? Was the exanthema interpreted as an allergic phenomenon due to vaccination? If a drug-induced exanthema was assumed, it is remarkable that it was limited to feet and legs and that the trunk was omitted. Was there any clinical indication of erythema exsudativum multiforme as a potential hint to an infectious disease that might have played a role for the onset of MCNS?

Minor revisions

1) I recommend to refrain from the speculative phrase “possibly due to hypersensitivity syndrome” in the Abstract. A short paragraph on possible pathophysiological explanations would be desirable for the Discussion, however.

2) Please correct

- “administration of various vaccines” instead of “administration various vaccines”, l.5, Abstract
- “nephrotic” instead of “nephritic”, l. 6, Abstract
- “tubulo-atrophie”, Case Presentation

3) Add a headline/legend to Table 1.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

No competing interests.