Reviewer's report

Title: Calciphylaxis in Chronic, Non-Dialysis-Dependent Renal Disease

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Version: 1 Date: 5 Jul 2003

Reviewer: WAJEH QUNIBI

Level of interest: A paper of limited interest

Advice on publication: Accept after discretionary revisions

The authors report a fatal case of biopsy-proven calciphylaxis in a patient with refractory heart failure and chronic renal insufficiency (CRI). The case is interesting since it confirms that calciphylaxis, although more common in dialysis patients, can occur in other clinical situations such as CRI, cancer, inflammatory bowel disease, and primary hyperparathyroidism with even normal renal function. The pathogenesis of calciphylaxis is still unknown. The authors made a number of speculations in an attempt to explain the development of calciphylaxis in their patient. Other factors that should have been considered by the authors include obesity, vitamin K deficiency, protein malnutrition and protein C and S deficiency. None of these factors however is a confirmed cause of calciphylaxis.

The manuscript is too long. The authors can condense description of the case and limit the number of figures 3 and 5 only.

Competing interests:

None declared.