Reviewer's report

Title: Subarachnoidal Neurocysticercosis non-responsive to cysticidal drugs: a case series.

Version: 1 Date: 26 November 2009

Reviewer: Kashi Prasad

Reviewer's report:

Major comments: Now-a-days MRI based staging of the parasite like viable (vesicular), degenerative, healed/calcified is possible (Prasad etal 2008 parasitol Int 2008; 57:166-71; Garcia and Butto. Acta Trop 2003; 87:71-8). So far the cysticidal drugs help in killing the parasite. The parasite clearance from central nerves system (CNS) depends on the immune response of the host, which may even take several years. When the parasite is located in subarachoid space, cistern or ventricle obstructing the flow of CSF, the treatment should be surgical excision in addition to cysticidal drugs. Authors should record the stage of the parasite & changes, if any before the start and after completion of cysticidal drugs. More over histopathological confirmation on the viability of the parasites, where surgically excised should have been done. As such cysticidal drugs are responsible for killing the parasite with reduction in size and not for clearance of the parasite from the site of localization.

Minor comments:

Background: 2nd sentence- “NC may adopt-------------“ needs modification.
Page 3, para-2 “the prognostic is uncertain “should to replaced by the prognosis is uncertain”.
Page 3, last sentence: “Extensive subarachoid cysticerci” - what the authors mean by extensive. Does it mean multiple cysticerci or cysticerci extending with the different areas of CNS.
Patient E- It appears that initially surgical excision of the parasite was done. Ideally the patient should have received before or immediately after surgery ABZ treatment, which might have prevented recurrence.

These are many grammatical mistakes & the constructions of many sentences are faulty. English needs to be improved.

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'