Reviewer's report

Title: Painful Ophthalmoplegia with Normal Cranial Imaging

Version: 1 Date: 29 September 2013

Reviewer: Shengyuan Yu

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting paper. Of course, there are several significant problems with the design of the study and interpretation of the results.

Our comments to the Author:

Major Compulsory Revisions:

1. It is meaningful to discuss this group of patients. We advice the author to adjust the classification of the patients more objectively (such as with or without definitely diabetes mellitus) and discuss the controversy of the definition of ocular diabetic neuropathy, THS and OM.

Ocular diabetic neuropathy was difficult to differentiate from Tolosa-Hunt syndrome (THS) with a history of diabetes or abnormality of glucose tolerance in patients with negative MRI findings. Although the ICHD-2 provided the diagnostic criteria for ocular diabetic neuropathy, THS and ophthalmoplegic migraine (OM), there are not methods that can definitely differentiate these definitions at the present technological stage.

2. In the present study, the patients with ocular diabetic neuropathy were significantly older than other groups and had poor outcome than other group. Mean age of patients with diabetes mellitus may be more than 50 years old. Is diabetes mellitus a pathogenic factor or consequence for all of these? There was a fact that couldn’t be changed for retrospective study of the real situation about the patients group of THS with abnormality of glucose tolerance

Minor Essential Revisions

On page 9 line 7, “Chen, YL) with a on focus on the parasellar area and orbits. Both reviewers”, is it a expression question?

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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.