Reviewer's report

Title: Sarcoidosis with involvement of the paranasal sinuses - a retrospective analysis of 12 biopsy-proven cases

Version: 3 Date: 2 July 2013

Reviewer: Daniel A Culver

Reviewer's report:

The authors have addressed most of my prior comments. Unfortunately, the present manuscript suffers from the problem that it does not add much to our understanding of SURT. The authors state, and I do not necessarily disagree, that raising awareness of SURT is a major goal of the current work.

1. I think that to make this manuscript most interesting for the reader, that you should add a table summarizing all the case series including this one. I would like to see a paragraph in the discussion placing your series into context with all those other ones.

2. Can you comment on the chronicity of sarcoidosis in this population, on what proportion had SURT at the outset of their sarcoidosis, and on the rate of resolution of sarcoidosis (or of need for treatment), if possible? These data would allow a more full characterization of the severity of this group.

3. This may not be available, but I have anecdotally observed that SURT granulomas tend to exhibit more necrosis than granulomas in other organs, such as the lung. Are you able to comment on that with the biopsy data you have?

4. I disagree that tracheal or large airways involvement should be considered to be part of SURT, despite the assertion of Dr. Baughman. I think you should at least comment in the discussion that it is questionable about whether anything below the larynx can be considered as SURT, so that this concept is not blindly perpetuated through the literature.

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