Reviewer's report

Title: The Use of Endobronchial Ultrasound-Guided Transbronchial Needle Aspiration in the Diagnosis of Thyroid Lesions

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Reviewer: Zbigniew Adamczewski

Reviewer's report:

The paper entitled “The Use of Endobronchial Ultrasound-Guided Transbronchial Needle Aspiration in the Diagnosis of Thyroid Lesions” describes very interesting issue of the cytological diagnosis of tumors in the mediastinum. In patients with intrathoracic thyroid tumors, EBUS-TBNA could prevent complications associated with more invasive procedures.

Major Compulsory Revisions

The authors presented in their paper clinical cases of patients with mediastinal lymph nodes or masses that were qualify for the EBUS-TBNA. Malignancy was identified in 3 (25%) patients: metastatic adenocarcinoma of the breast, large B-cell lymphoma, and metastatic adenocarcinoma of lung origin. Thyroid tissue in the background of these biopsies, by the authors, confirms presence of metastases to the thyroid.

Please clarify whether the authors have other evidence to prove this thesis (e.g. histopathological examination). Moreover, most thyroid lymphomas (B-cell lymphomas – more then 50% cases are diffuse large B-cell lymphoma and 10-23% cases are extranodal marginal zone B-cell lymphomas) – there are primary thyroid malignances.

Minor Essential Revisions

The remaining 9 samples were deemed to be benign lesions (follicular nodules =7, multinodular goiter =1, Hürthle cell adenomas in background of multinodular goiter =1).

These results there are not according to the Bethesda System for Reporting Thyroid Cytopathology, by which should now be formulated cytological diagnosis.

Page 3
Translation of abbreviation IRB is present in wrong place.

Page 8
Conclusion
Error in the word patient(s)

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest 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:

I declare that I have no competing interests' below