Reviewer's report

Title: Emotionally induced galactorrhoea in a non-lactating female - "Pseudo-Lactation"?

Version: 1 Date: 15 September 2014

Reviewer: Dimitra Argyro Vassiliadi

Reviewer's report:

This is a case report of a 18-year-old girl with type 1 diabetes mellitus presented with transient galactorrhea and mild hyperprolactenemia associated with seeing and hearing a newborn in her next door. There are no analogous cases reported so far.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. The undoubted causal association of this patient’s galactorrhea, with the visual or auditory stimuli from the newborn is not established. This would necessitate multiple prolactin measurements when the patient was exposed to the newborn’s cries, clear demonstration of a drop in prolactin levels off stimulus and re-appearance of galactorrhea and hyperprolactenemia after re-exposure to the putative stimulus.

2. Only one prolactin measurement was available at the time of galactorrhea and the possible impact of venepuncture stress on the raise prolactin levels was not assessed.

3. The presence of macroprolactin should also be excluded.

4. The proposed mechanism behind this mild hyperprolactinaemia, (transient lactotroph hyperplasia and hyper function) can not be established. There is no MRI at the time of symptoms. Also, menstruation remained normal, probably due to intermittent and not sustained increase in prolactin. Other possible causes, such as psychiatric disorder or factitious hyperprolactinemia were not excluded and the authors do not report performing a formal psychiatric evaluation.

5. Long term follow up of this patient is necessary before concluding that this episode was truly triggered by the stimulatory cues from and emotional attachment towards the newborn and not associated with other situations (stress from the pending exams, early stages of psychiatric disease).

6. The introduction is too long, the causes of hyperprolactenemia would fit better in the Discussion section, each one of them being excluded upon clinical/laboratory data.

Minor Essential Revisions

Line 53, on this case’s grounds it can not be concluded that “… “pseudo lactation” is … important cause …”. It is only one case, after all, and not firmly established.

Line 37, “Galactorrhoea was preceded seeing the baby” (apparently
galactorrhoea followed seeing the baby)

**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