Reviewer's report

Title: Histopathological Evaluation OF Ocular Microsporidiosis by different stains

Version: 3 Date: 30 May 2006

Reviewer: Jan Orenstein

Reviewer's report:

General:
The manuscript and figures are much improved.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct):

There are two word mistakes, page 4 end of line 9 should be "with" and page 11 third line, I think you mean to not have included the word "other". There is still a problem with the figures. There is confusion in the text about the "waist band", which by definition is central and not polar, the authors should be consistent with their terminology and what actually can be seen. The central band, not the polar staining structure (could be the nucleus in some cases), which is very common in the figures, is best seen in figure 4a. Although the authors describe the spores as being brown in the text and black (as they should be) in legend of figure 2d, they are actually red in the figure. Classically the PAS stain is used to bring out the "polar granule", it is not seen very well, or at all, with other stains. The references are a problem, they are not primary and are occasionally wrong. An example of a mistake is reference 7, which does not describe the "first case of ocular microsporidiosis" (no matter whether historical or more recently in HIV/AIDS).

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore):

Even though there are "increasing reports of microsporidiosis in India", you only have 4 cases out of "2655 cases that underwent penetrating keratoplasty". You only mention polarizing the H&E stained section, when actually polarization is even better (especially useful with the smaller spores) with the GMS and Gram stains.
It would be very interesting to know the species!

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.