Reviewer's report

Title: Schwannoma of the vagus nerve, a rare middle mediastinal neurogenic tumor: Case report

Version: 1 Date: 26 September 2009

Reviewer: Dimitrios Pousios

Reviewer's report:

Dear Editor

I believe that this manuscript presents an interesting and rather rare case of an intrathoracic neurogenic tumour that has not been described often in the literature.

My suggestions to the authors would be the following:

1. The latest articles in literature report VATS as the preferred as well as safe method to resect this kind of lesion. Did the authors consider attempting a thoracoscopic approach at first or was an open approach their immediate decision?

2. It would be interesting to have a comment on the postoperative presence or not of hoarseness. Previous reports mention a residual effect post dissection next to the vagus nerve.

3. It would also be interesting to include in the discussion the authors opinion regarding the sacrifice or not of the vagus nerve in terms of complete resection of the lesion. This has been somewhat controversial in the latest reports.

Sincerely Yours

Dimitrios Pousios

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that i have no competing interests