Reviewer's report

Title: Valve sparing surgery for aortic root dysplasia with multiple aneurysms in Blau Syndrome - a bridge too far

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Reviewer: Wael Awad

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting case of a young lady with Blau syndrome who was found to have an incidental abnormality of her aortic root on transthoracic echo.

I have a number of suggestions for the authors:

1. I am not sure the end of the title adds anything...REMOVE BRIDGE TOO FAR
2. The lady was followed up for mitral regurgitation. What were the TOE findings on examination of the mitral valve? Did the mitral regurgitation improve after the surgery for the aneurysm?
3. Why mention the absence of a carotid bruit? If there is no association with BS leave it out.
4. The authors mention cold agglutinin antibodies but have not expanded on this. Were different steps necessary at operation?
5. Nothing is written about operative set-up; cannulation, patient temperature, method of cardioprotection.
6. The authors state that there is little data about the cardiac manifestations in BS. What are the reported manifestations? and can they offer an explanation for the findings in this particular patient.

The article (English and spelling) can be much improved.

Investigations: The transoesophageal echo showed the presence of an aneurysm of the right noncoronary sinus of Valsalva. WHICH??....regurge??

Surgery: On internal inspection....Do they mean external inspection?
This was anastomosed to the left and right coronary button. Better to write left and right coronary buttons were anastomosed to the composite graft.

Histology is under heading of post-operative complications. It would be interesting to report/state what the aortic leaflets looked like on histology.

Minor Essential Revisions:

Missing labels on Figures. The authors have not submitted a Fig demonstrating the CXR as stated in the article.CT scan should be labelled as Fig 1; saccular aneurysm as Fig 2. Not sure what the authors are demonstrating in Fig 3 that is
not demonstrated in Fig 2.

I am not sure about the choice of references used. 3 are chapters of books and 1 is from 1957!

**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