Reviewer's report

Title: Myasthenia gravis associated with an ectopic cervical thymoma

Version: 2 Date: 24 May 2011

Reviewer: Jun-Neng Roan

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Reviewers: Jun-Neng Roan/ Ming-Ho Wu

Major:
Wu TH et al. report a rare case of symptomatic ectopic cervical thymoma. As most reported cases were asymptomatic with only a palpable mass lesion in the neck, the presentation of myasthenia gravis is even rare among these patients. This article might be interested to readers of Journal of Cardiothoracic Surgery. The authors performed complete removal of thymic tissue and the neck thymoma for this patient. The patient recovered from the treatment. However, the cause-and-effect between the ectopic thymoma and myasthenia gravis was weak in this case. The title of this article might better be modified to “Ectopic cervical thymoma in a patient of myasthenia gravis.”

The authors mentioned that two similar cases were reported in English literature. The surgical treatments, however, were different between those two cases. One received extensive thymectomy and one received simple resection of the ectopic cervical thymoma. Pyridostigmine was not required for the patient that received extensive surgery during the long-term follow-up. If the authors would like to emphasize the benefit of extensive thymectomy, they might better describe those results mentioned above in Discussion to make their conclusion more persuasive.

Minor:
The article should be revised by English editors before publication. For example:
1. “Page 2, line 9: .....even more rare and ...... “ should be corrected to “rarer”.
2. There are two subtitles of “Conclusion” on page 4 and 5.

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