Reviewer's report

Title: Concurrent Pulmonary Mucormycosis and Mycobacterium tuberculosis infection

Version: 2 Date: 18 January 2007

Reviewer: Larry Baddour

I am familiar with the literature and believe that this case meets one of the 7 criteria for evaluation in the journal: Unexpected or unusual presentations of a disease

Has the case been reported coherently?: Yes

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is this case worth reporting?: Yes

Is the case report persuasive?: Yes

Does the case report have explanatory value?: Yes

Does the case report have diagnostic value?: Yes

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: No

Comments to authors:

General

Patel et al's case report is unique, but not (primarily) for the reason (concurrent infection) they choose to highlight the case. This report may serve to better characterize a unique syndrome; please see Mayo Clinic Proceed 1999;74:698-701; in particular see Figure 3. The endobronchial presentation should be the focus of the paper and concurrent infection a secondary item.

Revisions necessary for publication

Refocus the paper as listed above. Also, address the concept of respiratory colonization; see Clin Infect Dis 2000;30:851-6.

Was a bronchial or lung biopsy obtained? This should be stated.

Was the fungus identified? This should be stated.

Was susceptibility performed for the fungal isolate? It is very likely that the isolate may have been resistant in vitro to itraconazole. This should be discussed. Also, like voriconazole, there is an interaction with itraconazole.

The figure does not demonstrate "foreign" material; it is the interaction of host with fungus (ie necrotic ulcer).

What next?: Revise and resubmit

Quality of written English: Acceptable