Author's response to reviews

Title: Meningitis and brain edema, rare presentation of minocycline-induced hypersensitivity syndrome

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Article: “Minocycline-induced hypersensitivity syndrome presenting with meningitis and brain edema: a case report.” (MS 1298757624125347)

Strasbourg, 2007-04-30

Dear Editor,

We thank you for your recent correspondence regarding our manuscript. We also thank Allan R. Tunkel for his time and useful comments. Here is a point-by-point response.

1. While the authors have made substantial changes in the style and reduced the need for significant editorial revision, there are some areas that will need to be carefully reviewed by the publisher.

For the final form, we will be pleased to make any editorial changes you will find necessary.

2. On page 5 in the paragraph on testing, I have a few suggestions.
   a. I would state the organism for Lyme disease, Borrelia burgdorferi, rather than the disease.
   b. The correct spelling is coxsackievirus.
   c. Just say the lumbar puncture revealed lymphocytic meningitis without saying it is aseptic.
   d. The correct unit for white blood cells is 60 cells/microliter, not per milliliter.
   e. In the units for glucose and protein, I would use the same types of units, rather than g/L for one and mmol/L for the other.

In response to these comments, the following changes (underlined) have been made in the text:

a- page 5, line 12: «...no sign of recent infection (Borrelia burgdorferi, Mycoplasma sp...)»
b- page 5, line 14 : «...coxsackievirus, echovirus...»
c-d-e- page 5, line 17: «...The lumbar puncture revealed lymphocytic meningitis with 60 cells/microliter (lymphocytes: 90%, protein level: 0.80 g/L, glucose level: 0.56 g/L)...»
3. In the first paragraph on page 6, I don't know what is meant by a 'control' of the brain CT. In that paragraph, can you also define what is meant by relapse? Was that just symptoms or something else more objective?

- By ‘a control’ of the brain CT-scan, we meant that a CT-scan was undertaken 14 days after the onset of the symptoms to check that brain edema had disappeared. To be precise, we have removed this term, used the term ‘second’ and modified the sentence (page 6, line 6): «A second brain CT-scan, undertaken 14 days after the onset of the symptoms, was normal. »

- During the treatment, when on 30 mg of prednisone per day, our patient reported a transient and generalized pruritus. That was what we meant by relapse. It was limited to symptoms. We have modified this, writing (page 6, line 9): « …but a relapse occurred on week 6, when on a dose of 30 mg per day. This relapse was under the form of a transient and isolated generalized pruritus, with no cutaneous nor neurological signs. »

Please keep us informed if any further information is needed.

Yours faithfully,