Reviewer's report

Title: Toxic Shock Syndrome responsive to Steroids

Version: 1 Date: 24 January 2007

Reviewer: Frank Domino

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?: No

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?: No

Does the case report have diagnostic value?: Yes

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: Yes

Comments to authors:

General: This case report has enormous value, but needs some issues resolved.

1. No explanation was offered concerning the origin of the Staph. infection; just the rash. Was a pelvic exam performed? Other studies? This leaves the reader wondering if this patient might have another TSS event in her future.

2. Dermatology consult concurred on the Staph. TSS diagnosis. No mention was made of their treatment recommendations; was a MRSA antibiotic started?

3. A statement is made that corticosteroids were started. What was the rationale for this decision? Was a literature search done? On whose recommendation was this initiated?

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Revisions necessary for publication

I believe the above comments must be addressed prior to publication, and the case report written at a higher level (document examination, treatment rationale, etc.)

What next?: Revise and resubmit

Quality of written English: Acceptable