Reviewer’s report

Title: Bilateral Hilar Lymphadenopathy in a Young Female: Case Report Seema Varma, MD; Shilpi Gupta, MD; Raymond ElSouidie, MD; Meekoo Dhar, MD; Neville Mobarakai, MD Sanford R. Nalitt Institute of Cancer and Blood Related Diseases, Staten Island University Hospital, New York.

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Reviewer: Michael Stein

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?: No

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

Comments to authors:

General

This is an interesting case report that needs some minor revision before acceptance.

1) Provide additional detail that demonstrates the “mild restrictive pattern” on PFTs. Was there additional evidence of reduced DLCO typical of BOOP? Was there a significant A-a gradient?
2) The ESR was markedly elevated along with a mild thrombocytosis. Although blood cultures were negative, did this patient have any risk factors for endocarditis? Was an echocardiogram performed?
3) Since this article is highlighting hilar lymphadenopathy as a manifestation of BOOP, these abnormalities should be identified on the chest CT instead of (or in addition to) the peripheral consolidations.
4) Since Figure 2 only shows a low magnification view, one is unable to see the type of cellular infiltrates that are described in the text. It would be helpful to see a composite photo with both low and high magnifications, demonstrating occlusive fibroblastic proliferation within an injured bronchiole to confirm the diagnosis of BOOP.
5) Since the steroid management for BOOP typically lasts 3-6 months, what was the rationale for continuing therapy for 12 months?
6) A final stylistic point: “Female” is an adjective, not a noun. The report is obviously written about a female human being, but for a more formal presentation, she should be described as a “young woman” or a “female patient.”

Revisions necessary for publication

Once the above issues have been addressed, the report will be ready for publication.

What next?: Revise and resubmit

Quality of written English: Acceptable