Reviewer’s report

Title: Endometriosis of the appendix presenting as a caecal polyp: a case report

Version: 3 Date: 10 December 2007

Reviewer: Ioannis Koutroubakis

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?: No

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?: Yes

Comments to authors:

General
The authors present a case of endometriosis of the appendix presenting as a caecal polyp. Although of some interest, I am afraid there are several and important weaknesses.

Revisions necessary for publication
1. What about the patient’s family history of endometriosis?
2. What about the gynecological examination of the patient preoperatively?
3. Laboratory findings should be mentioned in more detail (it is only reported “an iron deficiency anaemia”). Did the authors measure serum levels of CA-125?
4. Although possible submucosal endometriosis nodules in the sigmoid colon are reported as findings of colonoscopy no further investigations about the nature of these findings are reported (biopsies?).
5. Post-operative therapies with Depot GnRH agonists for at least six months have been proved to delay the recurrence rate of endometriosis. Did this patient receive post-operative therapy?
6. The authors report that fewer than 30 cases of endometriosis of the appendix are reported in the literature. However, the references are not relevant to this topic. A short review of the involvement by endometriosis of colon and appendix should be added.

7. The conclusions of the abstract and discussion are rather confusing (focused only to appendiceal intussusception) and not relevant to the title of the manuscript.

8. The magnification in the figures should be reported.

What next?: Revise and resubmit

Quality of written English: Acceptable