Reviewer’s report

Title: Infective Endocarditis caused by staphylococcal endocarditis in a patient with Atopic dermatitis-a case report and literature review

Version: 1 Date: 3 April 2007

Reviewer: Chad Brands

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?: Yes

Comments to authors:

General
Well written case report on the whole about an interesting case. Watch syntax carefully.

Comments: Abstract: Rewrite this for better syntax. Example “their skin surfaces” should be “Patients with atopic dermatitis experience high rates of colonization of their skin surfaces.”

Case Report:
Presented to the emergency department?
Clarify 'generally unwell' as this is vague and poorly descriptive
Clarify control of the asthma.
Clarify extent of history of atopic dematitis and management --- Past medical history is somewhat lacking
Strength of paper: laboratory review of data and hospital course

Start sentences with numerical information written out in words (Not 48, but forty-eight)

Hospital course summary is quite clear.

Discussion:
Last paragraph would best be tied back to your case as it demonstrates some of the concepts you are conveying.

Conclusion:
Would add a sentence about the possibility of bacteremia progressing to bacterial endocarditis as demonstrated in your patient with atopic dem as this is the main point it seems.

Revisions required – minor as noted above
Recommend accept with revisions

Chad Brands, MD
Consultant
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, MN
Revisions necessary for publication

What next?: Accept after minor revisions

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published