Reviewer's report

Title: Benzocaine and Lidocaine Induced Methemoglobinemia After Bronchoscopy

Version: 2 Date: 5 July 2007

Reviewer: Rajesh Gutta

I am familiar with the literature and believe that this case meets one of the 7 criteria for evaluation in the journal: Unreported or unusual side effects or adverse interactions involving medications

Has the case been reported coherently?: Yes

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
This is a valuable report. The literature is replete with such reports and may not add anything new. I would also like for the authors to clarify as to why they did not use methylene blue, despite the patient's oxygen saturation being only in the low 90's. Also they report the patient having bilateral ground glass opacities and this should even be a good reason to be aggressive in management of this potentially fatal condition.

Revisions necessary for publication

1. Correct the 3rd line of the abstract - "methemoglobinemia secondary to benzocaine and lidocaine". These drugs are are only suspected to cause methemoglobinemia, however were not proved in the paper as the reason for the reported condition.

2. Please clarify as to whether the chest CT was performed to evaluate the desaturation episode or to evaluate the pulmonary opacities. If the CT was done for evaluating the desaturation episode, was it necessary after ABG diagnosis of
methemoglobinemia and improved o2 saturation with 100% oxygen.

**What next?:** Accept after minor revisions

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable