Reviewer's report

Title: Motorbike Rider With Ventricular Arrhythmia - Suspected Association to Air Pollution

Version: 2 Date: 24 March 2008

Reviewer: Kathryn Meurs

I am familiar with the literature and believe that this case meets one of the 9 criteria for evaluation in the journal: An unexpected event in the course of observing or treating a patient

Has the case been reported coherently?: Yes

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is this case worth reporting?: No

Is the case report persuasive?: No

Does the case report have explanatory value?: No

Does the case report have diagnostic value?: No

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: No

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

This is an interesting case report and I appreciate the author’s efforts to point out the relationship of cardiac arrhythmias and pollution. However, in its current state, the association of the arrhythmia to pollution is a possible consideration rather than a proven or highly likely relationship. The author states that the patient believed his arrhythmia increased again when he rode the motorcycle again in the area full emissions, but we have no documentation of this, unfortunately the Holter monitor did not document them. Additionally, even if the arrhythmia was well documented, there would be little proof of the arrhythmias relationship to pollution since we can not rule out that the arrhythmia may be associated with some other etiology and is exacerbated with the sympathetic tone increases from the excitement of riding the bike in heavy traffic. This is interesting but lacks clinical proof of any relationship unfortunately

What next?: Reject

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