Reviewer's report

Title: Pericardial effusion due to Francisella tularensis with a cross reaction with Legionella pneumophila: a case report.

Version: 2 Date: 29 February 2008

Reviewer: Gunnar Sandstrom

I am familiar with the literature and believe that this case meets one of the 9 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?: No

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

The manuscript describes a case of pericardial effusion due to Francisella tularensis. The report is well written but lacks important information about identification of Francisella. Not one sentence is allocated to genetic identification of bacteria or bacterial DNA in patient samples. This must be added to discussion.

What next?: Accept after minor revisions

Quality of written English: Acceptable