Reviewer's report

Title: Coexistence of Primary adenocarcinoma of the lung and Tsukamurella pneumonia: a case report and review of the literature.

Version: 2 Date: 26 November 2007

Reviewer: Margot Schwartz

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

The one aspect of this case that limits it from being 100% convincing is that the organism was not present on the biopsy. The fact that the biopsy sample grew a pure organism, and that symptoms of infection improved with antibiotics provide strong suggestive evidence of the pathogenicity of the organism.

The suggestion of therapy with rifabutin and a fluoroquinolone, while appropriate, seems a bit strong as there are not, to my knowledge, any randomized studies to suggest optimal therapy for this organism (single vs. dual therapy, and whether other oral drugs such as clarithromycin or sulfa are just as good).

Revisions necessary for publication

It would be helpful to provide any clinical follow-up data on the patient's course over time, and how long the authors were planning on treating the patient.

It would also be helpful for the reader to see any susceptibility data on the
organism if the authors have that, and to mention other options for therapy (cheaper drugs may be just as appropriate)

What next?: Accept after minor revisions

Quality of written English: Acceptable