Reviewer's report

**Title:** Fatal injection of Ranitidine: a case report

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 22 January 2008

**Reviewer:** Peter Whorwell

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?** 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:**

I feel there is rather a lot of commentary without much factual information. It would be useful to have more actual data about the prevalence of serious adverse events with ranitidine and a discussion of this. There is none at present. A section on the use of ranitidine (number of prescriptions) would be helpful. How often is i/v ranitidine used? It would also be useful to have more information about the actual incident. How long after surgery did it take place? What other drugs had been administered in the previous 24 hours? Was the patient on antibiotics? Have you considered that the reaction could have been due to a reaction to other constituents in the injection rather than the ranitidine? Have you looked into what the other constituents are? VERY IMPORTANT AND MAY BE HARD TO PROVE - IT WOULD BE NICE TO KNOW THAT THE MANUFACTURERS HAVE BEEN INVOLVED AS THIS HAS SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS.

**What next?** Revise and resubmit

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable