Reviewer's report

Title: Direct spread of Thyroid Follicular Carcinoma to the Parotid gland and the Internal Jugular Vein; a case report

Version: 7 Date: 27 February 2008

Reviewer: Brandon Allard

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?: Yes

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: Yes

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

This is a nicely written case report for a very unusual presentation of a relatively common cancer....differentiated thyroid cancer.

My only recommendation would be to use more standardized language on page 4 with the sentence that begins "Two general types of metastases...."

Thyroid cancer literature and official staging strategies generally use the terms "regional metastases" and "distant metastases" to succinctly describe matstatic disease. These terms have prognostic significance.

Consider replacing the reference to "from the neighborhood" with the term regional metastases.

What next?: Accept

Quality of written English: Acceptable