Author’s response to reviews

Title: Intra-neural injection of corticosteroids for treating nerve damage in leprosy: a case report and review of literature

Authors:

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
Reviewer’s report

Reviewer: Abdulhafez Selim

1- Abstract is very short. Need to expand to cover the following: background, methodology in details, results with specific details and conclusions. Note that no references needed in abstract.

The abstract was rewritten to fulfill all points recommended by the reviewer.

2- More details have to be added to the case presentation such as doses used, any reported side effects, details of injection methodology, when each sensation returned exactly after injection?, why this case was selected?..etc

We added more details to the case presentation and we answered all questions asked by the reviewer.

3- Also conclusion need to be specific to match the case presented.

We changed the conclusion and we made it specific to match the case presented.

4- The introduction was very short. You need to go through other treatment modalities for such cases and show their failures then present the need for new treatment lines and why you selected this treatment line to test?. You also need to use more and recent references.

We improved the introduction part, we added more recent references and we added information about other treatment modalities in the discussion section.

5- You also need to use more and recent references in the discussion. need to suggest mechanism of action and potential side effects.

We added more and recent references in the discussion section.

We added information about the mechanism of action and side effects.

6- Many technical details are needed to show the injection process and precautions taken to avoid side effects and to insure successful delivery.

We added in the case presentation section about the details of the injection process and the precautions taken.

7- Figure legends need to be expanded to explain the observation and the difference between before and after treatment. It would be nice if you show sample for normal patient as a benchmark for your success. it is always better to have positive control in clinical trials.

This research is not funded and this investigation is very expensive in our country that is why we could not include a control figure.

8- I suggest more effort to improve the language style and make it more direct to the point. may be by more arrangement of flow of ideas.

The language was checked all over the manuscript by a native English speaking person.
Reviewer’s report
Reviewer: Nabil Mikhail
You mentioned that the patient presented by right and left claw hands. You gave complete discretion and management of the right hand lesion and did not mention anything about the left hand injury. Can you give more details about the lesion in the left hand, and if you are planning to do the same management for the other hand later.

After successful treatment of the right hand the patient consented for treatment of the left hand but we just started the treatment of the left hand, and the treatment will continue for about 6 months from now, so we have no results to report at the moment.
Injection was done by "blacid", what is the composition of this injection. Apparently it is an Egyptian manufactured drug.
It is a belladonna extract and we clarified this in the case presentation.