Reviewer's report

Title: Pulmonary Manifestations in a Pediatric Patient with Ulcerative Colitis: a case report

Version: 3 Date: 18 November 2007

Reviewer: Edward Loftus

I am familiar with the literature and believe that this case meets one of the 7 criteria for evaluation in the journal: New associations or variations in disease processes

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

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Revisions necessary for publication

Carvalho and colleagues present a case of a girl with ulcerative colitis who presented with worsening GI symptoms along with fever and sweats, who was found to have a pulmonary nodule. Further workup revealed mild obstructive lung disease, a necrobiotic nodule, and alveolitis. She was treated with corticosteroids followed by mercaptopurine and she improved. The authors review the topic of pulmonary disease associated with IBD. The authors claim that this is the first case reported of IBD-related lung disease in a pediatric patient with UC.

We need more information on how the diagnosis of UC was substantiated? Endoscopy? Biopsy? Xray?

On a related note, how do we know if the patient's most recent symptoms were due to a flare of UC? Were stool studies performed? How about endoscopy or xray?
Discussion, page 4: please insert a reference for the sentence beginning with "Camus and coworkers have described..."

Figure Legend, both 1a and 1b: "lingula" is misspelled twice.

What next?: Accept after minor revisions

Quality of written English: Acceptable