Author’s response to reviews

Title: Hepatic abscess in a pre-existed simple hepatic cyst, as a late complication of sigmoid colon ruptured diverticula.

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
Submission of Revised Manuscript: Hepatic abscess in a pre-existed simple hepatic cyst, as a late complication of sigmoid colon ruptured diverticula: a case report

Dear Editor,

Permit me to thank you for the careful and thorough review of my manuscript entitled "Hepatic abscess in a pre-existed simple hepatic cyst, as a late complication of sigmoid colon ruptured diverticula: a case report". Having read carefully the suggestions made by the reviewers, I performed all necessary changes which are included in the point-to-point answer following. Some language corrections were performed in the text.

Reviewer: Ioannis Koutroubakis

1. The duration of the use of antibiotics during and after the first hospitalization of the patient should be defined.

Page 3, Last paragraph: After starting antibiotics (ticarcillin-clavulanic acid, amicacin and metronidazole), the patient was operated for peritonitis two days later.

Page 4, First paragraph: Antibiotics were administrated for 18 days after the operation. After discharging only dietary restrictions were recommended.

2. Hepatic abscess without fever is extremely rare. Since the authors do not report fever of the patient during the second hospitalization they should mention and discuss about the absence of fever.

Page 4, Paragraph 2: One month later the patient returned to the hospital with malaise, vague abdominal pain, anorexia, poor general condition and slightly elevated temperature (37.2-37.5°C).

Page 4, Paragraph 3: Three days after his admission, because of a new drop of the hematocrit to 20.9%, elevation of the patient’s temperature (39°C), and worsening of his general condition, ....

3. The development of hepatic abscess in a pre-existed simple hepatic cyst should be discussed in more detail. How often and when simple hepatic cyst are infected?

This is already discussed in detail. Page 5, paragraph 2: Our report concerns a unique case of hepatic abscess formation due to diverticulitis, in a previously existed simple hepatic cyst without evidence of pylephlebitis. This is the first reported case of delayed hepatic cyst transition to abscess, following an event of diverticular rupture.

Reviewer: Spiros Rizos
No changes or definitions were requested.

Reviewer: Michael Pitiakoudis

No changes or definitions were requested.

Closing, I am looking forward for your positive answer and I remain,

Yours Sincerely,

Dimitrios Filippou, MD, PhD
General surgeon, vis. Professor University of Athens