Reviewer's report

Title: Unusual orbital lymphoma undetectable by magnetic resonance imaging: a case report

Version: 1 Date: 21 January 2009

Reviewer: Frederick A Jakobiec

Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?: Unexpected or unusual presentations of a disease

Has the case been reported coherently?: No

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is the case report ethical?: Yes

Is there any missing information that you think must be added before publication?: Yes

Is this case worth reporting?: Yes

Is the case report persuasive?: No

Does the case report have explanatory value?: No

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 an interesting case but the report itself needs some revision. In short, a patient presented with a left visual decline and eventually swelling of the left optic nerve was discovered. After courses of corticosteroids were given the right optic nerve became involved, particularly at the apex. Eventually the process spread into the soft tissues of the left orbit including infiltration of extraocular muscle. A biopsy of the latter site revealed a large cell lymphoma. There is no statement about the thoroughness and extent of the initial systemic workup. Further immunopathologic characterization of the orbital lymphomatous process would be worthwhile and is not provided. The imaging studies suggest intraparenchymal optic nerve disease, and the possibility of breakout into the surrounding orbital soft tissue should be explored as a possibility. What was the length of follow-up and was a subsequent systemic workup performed to see if
there was any CNS involvement or later emergence of systemic disease?

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.