Author's response to reviews

Title: Relapsing macrophage activating syndrome in a young patient with still's disease.

Authors:

Meir MM Mizrahi DR (mizrahim@hadassah.org.il)

Version: 4 Date: 18 April 2009

Author's response to reviews: see over
Answer to reviewer's report

I Reviewer: elisabetta cortis

1. More details about the disease were editing.
2. Better difference between HLH and MAS was made.
3. We didn't mentioned that MAS is just a sever drug reaction the opposite is true (see page 7).
4. MAS and HLH have a lot in common to the point that MAS is considered II HLH (see page 8).
5. More details about the MAS were editing.

Thank you
Meir mizrahi M.D.
**Answer to reviewer's report**

**II Reviewer:** Karin Beutel

1. As reported the patient did develop splenomegaly (see page 4).
2. A complete work up of PCR and serology was added (see page 4 & 5).
3. The data about the disease activity under treatment was added (see page 5).
4. The drop of leukocytes count at this point is not suggesting initiation of MAS but respond to treatment and this can be obvious after the additional details about the disease activity.
5. For this reason we think that the patient responded to treatment and that the second reactivation was a new condition and not a non sufficient response for treatment.
6. Biological treatment such as IL-1 beta receptor antagonist (Anakinra) is mentioned (see page 8).

Thank you
Meir Mizrahi M.D.