Author's response to reviews

**Title:** Disseminated tuberculosis presenting with polymorphonuclear effusion and septic shock in an HIV-seropositive patient: a case report

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**Author's response to reviews:** see over
Dear Editor,

We would like to submit the second revision of our manuscript entitled “Disseminated tuberculosis presenting with polymorphonuclear effusion and septic shock in an HIV-seropositive patient” for publication in Journal of Medical Case Reports. We describe the case of a young HIV patient who presented with pleural and abdominal polymorphonuclear effusions and a quickly developing septic shock due to disseminated *Mycobacterium Tuberculosis* infection leading to multiple organ failure and death. Tuberculous lymphocytic pleural effusion is a common presentation but the association of polymorphonuclear effusion and septic shock due to *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* is an exceptional clinical presentation making the diagnosis of this aggressive situation challenging. This association has not been reported previously in the literature to our knowledge.

Neither this work nor any part of its essential substance (tables or figures) have been or will be published or submitted to another scientific journal or is being considered for publication elsewhere. If and when it is accepted for publication, the authors automatically agree to transfer the copyright to the publisher. The authors have no conflict of interest with this study. All authors have seen and approved the manuscript.

All changes have been highlighted in yellow in the revised manuscript. Furthermore, here are our answers to the first reviewer:
Minor remarks:

1. The WHO definition for normal weight is a BMI of 18.5 to 24.99 (please look at http://apps.who.int/bmi/index.jsp?introPage=intro_3.html) therefore the characterisation of a patient with a 19 kg/m² as cachectic is a bit excessive. Please use lean or equivalent instead.

   Answer: We agree and modified the text.

2. I would suggest to replace the first sentence of the discussion "Despite early administration of anti-tuberculosis drugs .....?? by despite rapid administration of anti-tuberculosis drugs after admission?? because the treatment was administered in fact lately in the course of the disease, due to a late presentation.

   Answer: Your remark is appropriate and we corrected the sentence.

We feel that these modifications improved our paper and we hope it is now suitable for publication.

Yours sincerely,

Olivier Nançoz, MD