Reviewer's report

Title: Successful thrombolysis of a thrombosed prosthetic mitral valve using a synthetic tissue plasminogen activator: a case report

Version: 3 Date: 22 February 2010

Reviewer: Eladio Sanchez

Which of the following following best describes what type of case report this is?: Other

If other, please specify:


Has the case been reported coherently?: Yes

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?: No

Is this case worth reporting?: No

Is the case report persuasive?: No

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

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

General Comments:
The case is correctly presented. Patient information, evolution and treatment are descripted detailed.

Several phrases are repeated in different sites of the text: the definition of prosthetic valve thrombosis and the theorical diagnosis of a prosthetic valve thrombosis.

The explanation of tenecteplase and the method of infusion are correct, perhaps
too long for a case report; the case and the discussion are the most important of a case report and not the theory.

The patient was discharged in treatment with warfarin. Different publications recommend adding aspirin after thrombolysis of a prosthetic valve thrombosis and in patients with prosthetic cardiac valve and risk of thromboembolism.

Revisions necessary for publication:

The discussion should be more detailed in the decision to perform a thrombolysis instead of surgery. Some publication in favour of surgery should be mentioned. Roudaut et al (1) recommend fibrinolysis in critically ill patients with acute obstruction if immediate surgery is not possible or if there is a contraindication to surgery. Manteiga et al (2) consider thrombolysis may be dangerous in the presence of left-sided atrial thrombosis. In the case report the patient in a stable hemodynamic status, class II of NYHA and in the echocardiography is suspected paravalvular thrombosis.

The treatment at discharge should be discussed. The ACC/AHA Guidelines (3) recommend the addition of aspirin 75 to 100 mg once daily to therapeutic warfarin for all patients with mechanical heart valves.


**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.