Author's response to reviews

Title: Autoimmune Hepatitis triggered by Nitrofurantoin

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editorial Team

Many thanks for giving us the opportunity to improve our manuscript along the lines suggested by the reviewers.

The first reviewer has no specific concerns but asks whether the 3 patients reported had previously had their smooth muscle antibodies checked before commencing nitrofurantoin. We have again looked at their medical records (primary care and secondary care records) and can find no record of previous smooth muscle antibody testing. We have now commented to this effect in the Discussion section, page 8, para 2.

The second reviewer asks that the terminology is changed from autoimmune chronic active hepatitis to ‘autoimmune hepatitis’, and that we use the word ‘trigger’ to describe the link between the drug and the liver disease. We have now done this throughout the manuscript including changing the title.

The reviewer asks us to consider whether the liver injury might be less to do with an autoimmune process requiring immunosuppressive treatment and more to do with a direct effect on the liver simply requiring drug withdrawal. We have now added some discussion about this on page 7, para 4 and Page 8, para 4.

We have marked the changes to or manuscript in red. We believe we have answered the reviewers’ questions and comments, and thank them for their interest and suggested improvements. Hopefully having made the suggested changes, the manuscript is now sufficiently improved to be published in Journal of Medical Case Reports.

Yours sincerely

David Gorard