Reviewers report

Title: Cholestatic Jaundice, Acute Renal Failure and Acute Pancreatitis Secondary to Methandrostenolone: a Case Report of Recreational Anabolic Steroid Use

Version: 3 Date: 25 September 2010

Reviewer: Stuart M Gordon

Which of the following following best describes what type of case report this is?: Unreported or unusual side effects or adverse interactions involving medications

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?: Yes

Is this case worth reporting?: Yes

Is the case report persuasive?: Yes

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:

MAJOR COMMENTS:
Within the past two years there have been at least three reports of AAS-enriched food supplement induced renal failure; these references must be cited. The novel aspects of this case include renal pathology (the previous reports suggested an IgA nephropathy whereas this biopsy suggests ATN) and the pancreatitis.

There was a recent publication in Hepatology documenting causality assessment scales in the reporting of Drug Induced Liver Injury. Certain elements of a case of DILI must be included to be published, including time to onset, peak bili and other pertinent labs, and time to resolution including others. Please review this paper to
assure that all necessary elements of this case are included in order to be cited as a bona fide case of DILI.

MINOR COMMENTS:
State the patient's age (middle age is insufficient).
"Transaminase" is an outdated term. The enzymes are "aminotransferases"
The introductory paragraph may be abbreviated.
Avoid the naming of athletes implicated in illegal steroid use; the reference alone is sufficient.

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests

SCG