Reviewer's report

Title: A case report of the effect of the dual endothelin receptor antagonist, bosentan, on untreatable ulcers in a diabetic patient

Version: 2 Date: 10 May 2010

Reviewer: Hyun-Sook Kim

Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?: An unexpected event in the course of observing or treating a patient

Has the case been reported coherently?: No

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?: 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:

Despite of various restrictive points, it is interesting case that represents the role of Endothelin-1 in a diabetic foot.

In order to be published, the manuscript stands to be done major revisions.

1) Endothelin-1 may be important in development of diabetic microangiopathy. In case of patient profile, old age with major celebrovascular damage with congestive heart failure was representative of the enormous blood vessel nature which includes artery stiffening and artherosclerosis also. How can exclude these condition as the major etiology of heel ulceration.

2) Are you sure that heel-pad is the common site of diabetic foot, more than peripheral site as like toe tip? If these major cause of ulceration is diabetic
microangiopathy, how about the peripheral site of foot in your case?

3) You suggest the cause of the congestive heart failure is probably ischemic heart disease. But there is not any supportive datas as like ECG, echocardiogram.

4) The duration of the heel ulcer is very long period (over 1 year). Is there significant difference in general medication, antibiotics, vasodilator and anticoagulation. I think that is very important, as like additive vasodilator use and dosage.

5) In discussion, you write only the clinical improvement, please add the underlying pathophysiology about endothelin-1 in diabetic vasculopathy.

6) How could you decided a therapeutic dosage of bosentan?

7) There is many indistinct meanings in the sentences. Please make a general correction of the English grammar.

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited