Reviewer's report

Title: Toxoplasmosis in the immunocompetent patient: a case report

Version: 2 Date: 1 February 2010

Reviewer: cecilia yoon

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

If other, please specify:
Case report of acute toxoplasmosis which is uncommon-review of this disease entity

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:
I think this case highlights a disease entity that is not seen or thought of by most clinicians however there are several changes which would help make it more coherent and persuasive.

Introduction: Have a sentence explaining why this should be a case report, ie. "toxoplasmosis is generally an asymptomatic infection in immunocompetent hosts"

Case report: info on node size, ie "largest node approximately 1.5cm" etc. no
other constitutional symptoms (since lymphoma is in differential of young man w/ nontender enlarged LN). Also in the table of serologies, if there is any f/u serologies IgG which can show decrease in convalescent titer since more definitive diagnosis, since as per discussion IgM may not indicate acute infection.

Discussion: page 5, first paragraph, last sentence "seropositive for toxoplasma gondi" reference needed for United States toxo seropositive rates.

Page 7: first sentence, confusing sentence since saying high avidity r/o acute infection, should f/u with addition of further info on low avidity with "however low avidity does not necessary indicate recent infection since...." can finish with rest of the sentence.

Page 7 2nd paragraph, needs references b/c toxoplasma PCR is not very sensitive in many instances, up to 40-60% depending on sample and timing of tests.

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.