Author's response to reviews

Title: Atrial fibrillation in healthy adolescents following highly caffeinated beverage consumption: a case series

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
June 2, 2010

Journal of Medical Case Reports
Re: Manuscript # 9777100873236786

To Whom It May Concern:

I have revised my manuscript, “Atrial fibrillation in healthy adolescents following highly caffeinated beverage consumption: a case series” following the comments from the peer reviewers, as detailed below.

1. Case 1 was edited to reflect the caffeine clearance and other factors that may have contributed to the clinical case (recognizing there was not proof that the a fib was caused by the caffeine).

2. Both cases had normal echocardiograms, which have been documented and discussed as ruling out other cardiac causes of arrhythmia.

3. Case 2 was edited to reflect that the patient’s alcohol consumption could also have contributed to his arrhythmia.

4. I added Figure 5, which comparatively graphs the caffeine content of commercial beverages, as suggested.

5. The discussion portion was edited to reflect that the cases could be due to other factors, and stressed the need for future caffeine effects in the pediatric population.

6. A paragraph on caffeine was added to the introduction section.

7. The quantity of caffeine ingested by both patients was unknown; this was reinforced.

8. The timeline for caffeine consumption to clinical presentation was addressed with both cases.

9. The patient's name was removed from the acknowledgement section.

10. The ECGs were rescanned and more information was added to the figure descriptors.

I also added the ethnicity of both patients as requested. I have highlighted my edits with “track changes” for your review.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my manuscript.

Sincerely,

Jennifer R. Di Rocco, D.O.