Reviewer's report

Title: A case of osteosarcoma in the distal femur two years after an ipsilateral femoral shaft fracture. Coincidence? A case report

Version: 2 Date: 26 May 2010

Reviewer: Bernd P Teunissen

Which of the following following best describes what type of case report this is?: Unexpected or unusual presentations of a disease

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?: No

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: No

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

In the introduction of the abstract it is stated that radiography did not contribute to the diagnosis. However, in paragraph two of the case presentation the author writes that the first moment of suspicion for malignancy arose, was because of osteolytic lesions shown on the radiographs. This should be corrected.

The author writes in this same paragraph two of the case presentation that a biopsy was performed. However, the area in which the biopsy was performed is not described. Were all hot spots histopathologically examined or was the diagnosis made on one biopsy and radiographic/bone scintigraphic findings combined? Is malignancy around the fracture proven by histopathology? This should be specified.
In paragraph five of the discussion it is stated that “one might question if the presence of the femoral shaft fracture and the osteosarcoma in the same femur is coincidental. Several facts might speak against this”. This is followed by two arguments that speak for this statement. This paragraph is confusing and therefore needs to be adjusted.

In paragraph one of the conclusion the trauma mechanism is described as “absolutely inadequate”. The term absolutely is exaggerated and needs to be omitted, because in (daily) practice fractures sometimes occur due to minor forces.

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests