Reviewer's report

Title: A case of systemic lupus erythematosus initially presented with eosinophilic enteritis

Version: 4 Date: 23 June 2010

Reviewer: Andreas Reimold

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

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?: 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:

The presentation of SLE as eosinophilic enteritis makes for an interesting and highly unusual presentation of this disease.

The Introduction will be improved by editing into more idiomatic English. The brief statement on SLE pathogenesis is overly simplified and does not reflect the idiopathic but also multifaceted nature of the disease.

The case presentation will again benefit from editing to improve the syntax and flow of the narrative. Several additional details should be added: the titer of the ANA (since a low titer is quite nonspecific and a high titer is more convincing), other extractable nuclear antigens (e.g. Sm, RNP) that might have been tested, the level of eosinophilia, the type of workup for parasitic infection, the results of
the kidney biopsy (was it lupus nephritis?), the description of the histology of the ileum that resulted in a diagnosis of eosinophilic enteritis (a picture might be interesting), and a more detailed description of the therapy (dose of corticosteroids, additional medications used, speed and duration of response, long-term follow-up). In retrospect, is there also now an explanation for the high CA 125?

The Discussion and Conclusions make reasonable points and will benefit from editing of the English.

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.