Reviewer's report

Title: Severe community acquired adenovirus pneumonia in an immunocompetent adult civilian: Case report and a review of the literature

Version: 1 Date: 7 December 2010

Reviewer: Nicolas Mueller

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?: 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:

Fleet et al. report a case of community acquired pneumonia due to adenovirus. The case is well-described, and the review of the literature thorough. My main critique is the fact that a number of additional viruses can cause the same clinical picture, but only Influenza was searched for and excluded. Adenovirus can become latent and may reactivate - detection of Adenovirus may be a bystander. Where other viruses looked for: RSV, Parainfluenza viruses, Metapneumovirus? Was Adenovirus assessed in the blood as well?

Quality of written English: Acceptable