Reviewer's report

Title: A patient with Metabolic Myopathy presenting with Polyarteritis Nodosa: a case report

Version: 1 Date: 4 February 2011

Reviewer: Norberto Ortego-Centeno

Which of the following following best describes what type of case report this is?: An unexpected association between diseases or symptoms

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?: No

Is the case report persuasive?: Yes

Does the case report have explanatory value?: No

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:

The authors present an interesting clinical case, in which a vasculitis of medium sized vessels is associated to a metabolic myopathy. But, in addition, vasculitis, although it has the histological characteristics of PAN, is associated with the presence of c-ANCA, which, of course, is typical of ANCA-associated vasculitis. It is not said if anti-PR3 antibodies were done and, if so, which was the result. Typically, the discovery of c-ANCA is due to the presence of antibodies to PR3. It’s very difficult to classify this case of vasculitis. We don’t know if the patient has ORL manifestations. Probably it would be of interest to perform an ENT study. In my opinion, it is better to considerer an ANCA-associated vasculitis, with involvement of medium sized arteries, than a PAN with c-ANCA, as c-ANCA is very distinctive of ANCA vasculitis.
In any case, I think the association is a matter of chance. If a patient with systemic vasculitis, does not adequately respond to appropriate treatment, one must seek an explanation, but a metabolic myopathy, although a possibility, as in this case, would be unlikely.

Authors should indicate the units of all laboratory determinations (AST, ALT...), and it is important to include the value of anti-PR3 antibodies, and add, in the discussion, the difficulty of classifying this case of vasculitis.

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable