Author’s response to reviews

Title: Sarcoid reaction associated with Merkel cell carcinoma revealed by fluorodeoxyglucose positron emission tomography: a case report

Authors:

Yuko Higashi (higashiy@m.kufm.kagoshima-u.ac.jp)
Kentaro Mera (meken925@m.kufm.kagoshima-u.ac.jp)
Mitsuyoshi Shimokawa (m-shimo@m3.kufm.kagoshima-u.ac.jp)
Mitsuhiro Hisadome (hisa32@m2.kufm.kagoshima-u.ac.jp)
Atsunori Baba (atsubaba@m2.kufm.kagoshima-u.ac.jp)
Shigeto Matsushita (shige@m2.kufm.kagoshima-u.ac.jp)
Masakazu Yanagi (yanagim@m2.kufm.kagoshima-u.ac.jp)
Takuro Kanekura (takurok@m2.kufm.kagoshima-u.ac.jp)

Version: 2 Date: 10 March 2011

Author’s response to reviews: see over
March 10, 2011

Dr. Michael Kidd  
Editor-in-Chief  
The Journal of Medical Case Reports

Dear Dr. Kidd:

We appreciate the detailed review of our manuscript. The comments were helpful in our revision of the manuscript. We have carefully considered and addressed all comments and hope that our work is now suitable for publication.

Sincerely,

Yuko Higashi, MD, PhD  
Department of Dermatology  
Kagoshima University Graduate School of Medical and Dental Sciences  
8-35-1 Sakuragaoka  
Kagoshima 890-8520, Japan  
Tel: +81-99-275-5388  Fax: +81-99-275-1134  
e-mail: higashiy@m.kufm.kagoshima-u.ac.jp
Detailed responses to reviewer comments:

Reviewer 1
1. We explain sarcoidosis and Merkel cell carcinoma in the Introduction.
2. a. We added a description of respiratory symptoms and smoking history
   b. In the revision we indicate that we resected the inguinal mass
   c. We now state that we distinguished between Merkel cell carcinoma and small cell lung cancer by staining with cytokeratin 20 and thyroid transcription factor 1
   d. We indicate the location and size of the lymph nodes
   e. We provided the standardized uptake value
   f. The adenopathy contained no tumor cells. Only inguinal lymph nodes manifested Merkel cell carcinoma. We concluded that the adenopathy was related only to granulomatous tissue. We added the status of our patient after diagnosis.

Reviewer 2
1. To comply, we now discuss sarcoidosis and sarcoid reaction in the Introduction and Discussion.
2. We cite FAMT-PET in the Discussion.
3. We added 2 references recommended by the reviewer.

We thank both reviewers for their thoughtful and helpful comments and hope to have addressed them satisfactorily.