Reviewer's report

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

Version: 1 Date: 21 December 2010

Reviewer: Masayuki Chida

Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?: New associations or variations in disease processes

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:

This manuscript is a rare case report of Merkel cell carcinoma with sarcoid-like reaction. There is a clinical suggestion and I think that it is worth printing in this journal.

However, some minor revise will be needed.

1. Although sarcoidosis and its immune dysfunction may be related to malignancy, there is evidence that patients with sarcoid reaction have a better prognosis in Hodgkin's disease (Brincker H. Cancer Treat Rev. 1986). You should discuss sarcoidosis and sarcoid-like reaction, separately and more clearly.

2. FDG-PET cannot distinguish cancer from sarcoidosis and sarcoid-like
reaction. FAMT-PET, however, may contribute to differential diagnosis between them. You had better cite a following reference: Kaira K, et al. Chest 2007; 131: 1019-27.


**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interest.