Reviewer's report

Title: Self-induced Elizabethkingia meningosepticum endophthalmitis

Version: 2 Date: 24 May 2010

Reviewer: Aziz Khanifar

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?: 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:

General Comments.

I read the case report with interest. The authors report a case of traumatic endophthalmitis from a rare bacterial source, Elizabethkingia meningoseptica. They describe the presentation, diagnostic evaluation, treatment course, and outcome. Overall, the text is well-written, informative, and interesting. There are only a few comments which require attention:

1. Were there any signs of penetrating ocular trauma on examination? (eg, a scleral laceration, corectopia, cataract, etc) This is not clear upon reading the manuscript.

2. What is the differential diagnosis of E. meningoseptica? Are there other organisms that may have similar criteria to those elaborated upon in the manuscript (eg, Gram negative, oxidase positive, sheep blood agar positive)? Is
it not unusual for E. meningoseptica to grow so readily on MacConkey agar?

3. Please provide a source for the chosen antibiotic regimen (oral rifampicin and ciprofloxacin) described in the text.

4. Please report the final visual acuity in the body of the text.

5. References 16 and 17 are cited in the body of the text, yet they are not listed in the References section.

6. The final sentence prior to the conclusion is confusing: Which report is the first to describe this, the authors' or the one involving the road traffic accident?

7. Please elaborate on the features of E. meningoseptica that are specific and consistent with ocular self-mutilation using needles.

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.