Reviewer’s report

Title: Torsades de pointes during laparoscopic adrenalectomy of a pheochromocytoma: a case report

Version: 1 Date: 11 January 2011

Reviewer: Federico Bilotta

Which of the following 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?: No

Is this case worth reporting?: Yes

Is the case report persuasive?: Yes

Does the case report have explanatory value?: No

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:

JMCRep

In this case report the Authors describe a case of torsades de pointes during laparoscopic surgery for adrenalectomy pheochromocytoma.

In a 42 yo woman, without preoperative QT prolongation, recurrent episodes of torsades de points developed intraoperatively.

The total period of arrhythmias lasted 15 minutes and ended when venous return of the tumor was ligated.

The case report is interesting because report a underscored preoperative
approach. Needs to be rewritten to highlight the original contents.

It is relevant, but not commented in the Discussion, that preoperative magnesemia was not tested preoperatively and resulted into abnormally low values when tested intraoperatively. Furthermore the combination with flecainide could be avoided.

The Authors mention that preoperatively testing for genetic long QT interval was not accomplished, but is not clear if it would have changed the clinical course of this case. Is it really indicated/mandatory?

In patients at risk for perioperative arrhythmias preoperative electrolytes should be—if possible—normalized and concomitant medications that can favour acute arrhythmias should be minimized.

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published