Reviewer's report

Title: Pediatric Ramsay Hunt syndrome - full recovery with inadvertent use of a lower dose of acyclovir for shorter than usual: a case report

Version: 2 Date: 28 September 2010

Reviewer: David Ko

Which of the following 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?: No

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?: No

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

The paper has merit because it documents a pediatric case of RHS.

The paper needs to give a reference for the "adult dose" of acyclovir and the "standard" length of treatment to compare to the lower dose and shorter course that this patient received.

Also it should be stated this patient is a teengager - is between a child and adult and his weight (is 36 kg the dose of acyclovir of 200 mg TID) for although lower than adults - is partially true compared to an adult.

In the conclusion the last statement is "this raises a question on the treatment of pediatric RHS" is a little vague on what question it raises e.g. maybe more specific issues should be mentioned.
a. possibly the younger patients such as children may have better outcomes
b. the pediatric dose of acyclovir is not known
c. the length of treatment is given as a range in adults 7-10 days and maybe could be shorter in children if natural course is better than in adults
d. The natural course of viral reactivation of nerves such as Ramsay Hunt and Bell's Palsy have variable outcomes

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable