Author's response to reviews

Title: Lobar pneumonia caused by Ralstonia pickettii in an elder patient: case report

Authors:

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

Thank you for the opportunity to revise our manuscript to JMCR. We appreciate greatly the reviewers’ comments and have worked carefully to address them. We believe that our manuscript is markedly improved as a result. In particular, we provided the patient’s previous medical history which will help reader to find out or to exclude some risk factors for causing of this disease; additionally, in Discussion paragraph 2, we added more information to describe how we carried out antibiotic susceptibility of the isolate of *R. pickettii*; finally, we corrected the language and formatted the manuscript to the Journal style.

Please find below the verbatim comments from the Editor and reviewers (italicized) and our specific answers and responses.

Responses to Editor

**Comment 1):** Please include the ethnicity of the patient in the case presentation section of the manuscript.

**Answer:** The ethnicity of the patient is Han Chinese. We have added this information in the revised manuscript.

**Comment 2):** Please could you confirm that you have obtained written informed consent from the patient for publication of the manuscript and figures used. We recommend the following wording: "Written informed consent was obtained from the patient for publication of this case report and accompanying images. A copy of the written consent is available for review by the Editor-in-Chief of this journal."

**Answer:** We have confirmed this and used the upper sentence to state this confirmation.

**Comment 3):** Please include a figure title and legend section after the reference list.

**Answer:** We have included figure titles and legends after the reference list.

**Comment 4):** Please upload the figures as separate files via the online submission system. They should not be included within the main manuscript document.

**Answer:** We will upload the figures as separate file via online submission system. We have deleted figures within the main manuscript document.

**Comment 5):** The authors did not revise the paper according to the reviewer’s suggestions. They responded to some of the questions in their letter but did not include this in the revised paper. They should have one more chance to do that.
Answer: This time, we completely revised the paper according to the reviewer’s suggestions and included all the suggestions and answers in the revised paper.

Comment 6: In addition to this, please format your competing section to the journal style. If the authors have no competing interests, please state: “The authors declare that they have no competing interests.”

Answer: We have done this in the revised manuscript.

Response to Reviewer: Beatriz Moreira

General comments 1: the previous medical history of this patient in not provided. It would be specially interesting to have information on two issues: (i) previous usage of respiratory therapy solutions, because this might have exposed the patient to fluids potentially contaminated with R. picketti.

Answer: We have included the previous medical history of this patient in the revised manuscript. About issue (i), this patient has not been applied any respiratory therapy solutions before sudden onset of a high fever, therefore, it will exclude the possibility of the patient exposed to fluids potentially contaminated with R. picketti. We have incorporated this answer into the case presentation and discussion, highlighted with green color.

General comments 2: (ii) previous exposures to antimicrobial agents, which might have helped select for such a naturally resistant pathogen.

Answer: This patient has not taken any antimicrobial agents in recent years, suggesting the possibility that this might be a naturally resistant pathogen. We have incorporated this answer into the case presentation and discussion, highlighted with green color.

General comments 3: The bacteriologic diagnosis was made by a CT-scan guided lung biopsy and culture of purulent fluid obtained from the lung abscess. Those procedures show convincing evidence that R. picketti might have been the etiologic agent of pneumonia.

Answer: We appreciate the positive comments.

Minor comments 1: Use of English needs a thorough review, in the whole paper, especially in the discussion. It is very hard to follow the ideas the way they are presented.

Answer: We have extensively corrected the language, especially in the discussion.

Minor comments 2: In addition, there are numerous misspellings in the whole text (Respiratory track, nosocmia infecton, venuous, cystic firosis, right lung lower lobe, right pulmonary abscess, etc.).
Answer: We have completely corrected misspellings in the whole text.

Specific comments 1): Title could be shortened to “Lobar pneumonia caused by Ralstonia picketti in an elder patient”.
Answer: The title has been shortened according to the reviewer’s suggestion.

Specific comments 2): Introduction Reference 1 is inappropriate for the first isolation of R. picketti (this is a report of R. picketti as a cause of pseudobacteremia). Authors should provide either the original paper, which would be hard to find, or a review paper.
Answer: Reference 1 has been corrected to an appropriate one.

Specific comments 2): Second paragraph: please complete cerebro-spinal fluid or respiratory tract secretions.
Answer: We have deleted this sentence in the revised manuscript to make people easier to understand.

Answer: Hyperlipidemia is an error and we have deleted this sentence in the revised manuscript.

Specific comments 3): Case presentation: Please specify if R. pickettii grew in pure cultures from the positive specimens.
Answer: We have specified that R.pickettii grew in pure cultures from the positive specimens in the revised manuscript as highlighted in green color.

Specific comments 4): References: Please make citations uniform and in compliance with Journal style. Several names are misspelled.
Answer: We have thoroughly corrected any mistakes (uniform, names, etc.) in References to fit to Journal style.

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited
Answer: We have thoroughly corrected any mistakes in language.

Response to Reviewer: Michael P Ryan

General comments 1): In “Case Presentation” the authors say that an API system was used to identify the bacteria, there are many different API systems but I presume the authors used the API 20 NE system, this must be clarified.
Answer: Yes, we did use API 20 NE system and we have included the words in the revised manuscript, which was highlighted with green color.
General comments 2): In the "Discussion" paragraph 2 the Authors discuss the Antibiotic Susceptibility of the isolate of R. pickettii. The Authors do not describe how they carried out these studies. This information is necessary.

Answer: We appreciate this suggestion and have added new sentences to describe how we carried out these studies. This is highlighted by green color in Discussion.

General comments 3): The authors fail to integrate the figures into the text. This must be corrected.

Answer: Thanks for the correction. We have integrated the figures into the text in the new manuscript.

Minor comments 1): In the Abstract Ralstonia pickettii is not in italics.

Answer: We have changed this in Abstract.

Minor comments 2): In the "Discussion" paragraph 1 the first line needs to be clearer. Is it R. pickettii they are talking about?

Answer: Yes, we are talking about R.pickettii. We have clarified this in the paragraph 1 the first line.

Minor comments 3): In the "Discussion" paragraph 2 the second sentence is not clear and needs to be rewritten.

Answer: We have rewritten this sentence in paragraph 2.

Minor comments 4): In the third reference a, b and c are added after the author names and should be removed.

Answer: We have removed those as review’s suggestion.

Minor comments 5): In transfer of the document degree Celsius has been corrupted in "Case Presentation".

Answer: We have correct this to the right one.

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

Answer: We have thoroughly corrected any mistakes in language.

We are looking forward to a favorable decision on our work. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me (hebeihuxi@sina.com.cn).

Sincerely,

Wensen Pan, M.D., Ph.D.