Reviewer's report

Title: Low-grade bronchus-associated lymphoid tissue lymphoma stage IV with subsequent histologic transformation to an aggressive lymphoma: a case report

Version: 1 Date: 3 July 2011

Reviewer: George Papaxoinis

Which of the 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?: 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?: No

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: No

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

This is an interesting case report of a rare disease. The most important points are adequately described and the discussion section offers clear messages. Presentation of pulmonary lymphoma with cavitation is rare. However, some points should be clarified:

1) In the last paragraph of the Discussion section the author says that transformation of BALT lymphoma has not been seen. However, it should be noticed that high grade MALT pulmonary lymphoma has been described (Kurtin PJ, et al. Pathologic and clinical features of primary pulmonary extranodal marginal zone B-cell lymphoma of MALT type. Am J Surg Pathol. 2001;25:997-1008).

2) Why chemotherapy was not administered in this symptomatic patient with

3) Baseline abnormal blood exams should be presented.
4) How often was the patient followed up after rituximab treatment?
5) In the 3rd paragraph, 9th line of discussion the author should provide references of case series of rituximab treatment of BALT lymphoma.

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests