Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Persisting right sided chylothorax in a patient with chronic lymphocytic leukaemia: a case report

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 2 July 2011

**Reviewer:** Darko Antic

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?: Yes

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: Yes

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

Authors described rare case of patient with CLL and chylothorax. I think that manuscript can be accepted with revisions.

Generally, manuscript need to be clearly written

For example

1. Unclear abstract:
   First-line treatment consisted of conservative treatment in addition to four cycles of an immuno-chemotherapy. What does it mean? It need to be divide in CLL treatment and chylothorax treatment

2. Since chylothorax is an overall infrequent condition the best therapeutic
approach is still under debate [1, 5, 7, 8]. In particular in lymphoma associated chylothorax the impact of modern immuno-chemotherapy including the anti-CD20 antibody rituximab is not yet established.

Chylothorax and CLL is a very rare condition and there is not possibilities to make estimation of impact of any type therapy

3. In the manuscript You wrote anti lymphoma therapy. It is not anti lymphoma therapy. It is standard CLL therapy.

4. Also, You can calculate Cumulative Illness Rating Scale for patients

5. Discussion need to be more dedicated to compare results of other authors who described CLL and chylothorax. Their therapeutical aproach and results what is different? You can briefly describe theoretical part of chylothorax.

6. English style need to be better. Eventually, consider professional editing

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

'I declare that I have no competing interests'