Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Reversible hypopituitarism after treatment for diffuse large B cell non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma metastasizing to the pituitary: a case report and discussion

**Version:** 1 **Date:** 31 July 2011

**Reviewer:** Mikulas Pura

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?:** No

Does the case report have explanatory value?: No

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:**

Questions:
1) Did the patient present night sweats?
2) Were any cranial nerve involvements present?
3) Did patient suffer from any autoimmune disease?
4) Did authors think of performing the lumbar puncture as a diagnostic procedure? It could bring the evidence of malignant cell population in CSF suggestive (although indirective) for central nervous system involvement instead of pituitary biopsy.
5) Did they measure ACTH levels? Results from Synacthen test are undoubtedly
suggestive for adrenocortical failure, but it is impossible to say whether for primary or secondary form. Along the secondary (central) adrenocortical failure, also primary could be present as patient suffered from massive abdominal organ involvement with DLBCL.

6) Was MRI performed only before or also after treatment?

Major suggestions:

1) If available, authors should show more detailed the pituitary PET scan (instead of liver, axillae etc.) as well as hormone results before and after treatment (preferable in table) - to underly the reversible functional changes in pituitary hormone production.

2) Authors should comment (or at least speculate) in more detailed form why the patient present anterior pituitary failure without signs and symptoms of posterior pituitary involvement - this is special for the case report

Minor suggestions:

In figure 3 authors should state magnification and immunophenotyping confirming the diagnosis of DLBCL

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.