Reviewer's report

Title: Etanercept in the treatment of recalcitrant enteropathic arthritis: a case report and literature reviews

Version: 1 Date: 1 June 2011

Reviewer: Debasish Pyne

Which of the following following best describes what type of case report this is?: Other

If other, please specify:

Management of resistant 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?: 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:

1. Para 2 of case: 'CRP raised to 1.14' What is the normal range
2. When was MTX started? Was the dose escalated from 10mg/wk and how long was the trial of MTX before this was deemed a failure? It is difficult from the report to elucidate that the remission was due to etanercept as MTX can take up to 3 months for effect. This needs clarification.
3. Final para of case: 'Uptodate no relapse ' How long was this follow up? at least 6 months?
4. Combination treatment, of MTX + SSZ + AZA + Steroids + Etanercept has been used in this patient, rather than switching through the drugs, and I would be concerned regarding potential side effects with this degree of immunosuppression.

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

'I declare that I have no competing interests'