Reviewer’s report

Title: Migratory fish bone penetrating through the thyroid gland with cutaneous fistula: a case report

Version: 1 Date: 19 January 2012

Reviewer: Christian Koch

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:

1. Did the authors re-check TSH and free T4 at the 18 week follow-up to see if there was a need for L-thyroxine replacement after hemithyroidectomy? Can the authors cite literature regarding the need to replace L-T4 after hemithyroidectomy (varies....) ?

2. Can the authors define pyogenic granuloma? Entering the key words pyogenic granuloma, thyroid, nothing has been published in PUBMED. However, the term pyogenic granuloma is used in many other locations. Would refer to an encyclopedia in dermatology or a good textbook such as "Fitzgerald".

3. The following citations should be added to the reference list:
Lin ZH et al. Acute thyroid abscess secondary to oesophageal perforation. J Int
Med Res 2008;36:860-4
Tien KJ et al. Acute suppurative thyroiditis with deep neck infection: a case report. Thyroid 2007;17:467-9

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests:
'I declare that I have no competing interests'