Author's response to reviews

Title: Pregnancy Associated Breast Cancer and Increased Risk of Pregnancy-Associated Recurrence

Authors:

Freya Schnabel (writejenn@gmail.com)
Jessica Billig (Jessica.billig@nyumc.org)
Arielle Cimeno (arielle.cimeno@nyumc.org)
Jennifer Chun (jennifer.chun@nyumc.org)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
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Dear Editorial Board of the Journal of Medical Case Reports,

Thank you for reviewing our manuscript entitled, “Pregnancy-Associated Breast Cancer and Increased Risk of Pregnancy-Associated Recurrence.” The reviewers’ comments were very helpful in guiding our revision.

Here are the reviewer’s comments and our responses to address these concerns:

- **Referee 1:** “Interesting case and indeed not reported on before. The writing is sound and clear and makes sense. On some aspects, referring to the literature is a bit outdated.”
  - We have added the following three recent publications to our report:

- **Referee 2:** “The abstract needs to be clear…”
  - We have made changes to the abstract and also changed the ethnicity to “Caucasian” in the abstract and case presentation section of the manuscript.

- **Referee 2:** “The case presentation needs a better description of the first surgery…”
  - In the case presentation, we stated that the patient “underwent a left total mastectomy with axillary node dissection” which is equivalent to a modified radical mastectomy. As per contemporary technique, no muscles were divided or removed. Included in the definition of a total mastectomy is the removal of the nipple areolar complex and central skin of the breast.

- **Referee 2:** “it is better to present all medications with the generic name…”
  - We changed “cytoxan” to “cyclophosphamide”.

This is the first report that details a phenomenon of a pregnancy-associated breast cancer recurrence during a subsequent pregnancy. We believe that this case raises the importance of close monitoring and counseling regarding future pregnancies and risks of breast cancer recurrence in this subset of patients. This report has been reviewed by all authors and there is no conflict of interest or financial interest to disclose. This case report has not been published and we hope you will reconsider our revised manuscript for publication in your journal. Thank you for this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Freya Schnabel

Freya Schnabel, MD
Director of Breast Surgery
NYU Clinical Cancer Center
160 East 34th Street
New York, NY 10016
Tel: 212-731-5367