Reviewer’s report

Title: Incidental renal cell carcinoma in an autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease patient who underwent simultaneous bilateral native nephrectomy and living donor renal transplantation: a case report

Version: 2 Date: 23 January 2012

Reviewer: Dirk J van der Windt

Which of the following following best describes what type of case report this is?: An unexpected event in the course of observing or treating a patient

Has the case been reported coherently?: Yes

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is the case report ethical?: No

Is there any missing information that you think must be added before publication?: No

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?: Yes

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: No

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

The incidental finding of renal cell carcinoma in an excised polycystic native kidney is reason for the authors to advocate bilateral nephrectomy in patients with ADPKD at the time of renal transplantation. The report is well written, informative, and highlights several clinical considerations/dilemmas in this patient group, such as indications for nephrectomy, alternatives (TAE), and timing of nephrectomy and transplantation.

However, based on ref 10 the authors claim that the incidence of RCC in ADPKD is not increased compared to the general population. This is therefore not an indication for bilateral nephrectomy, because following the same reasoning bilateral nephrectomy would then be indicated for any patient with ESRD.
undergoing kidney transplantation.

Therefore, based on this case the authors can at most claim that a strong suspicion of malignancy in a specific patient can be an indication for nephrectomy. Interestingly, this patient underwent PET-CT prior to nephrectomy, likely because of elevated (pancreatic and colonic) tumor markers. Did PET-CT show increased uptake in the kidney?

If the authors would rewrite their report to indicate the clinically important factors directing the management of patients with ADPKD and renal transplantation, using this case as an example, there is potential for publication. The conclusion that the incidental finding of RCC indicates the necessity for nephrectomy, however, should be considered unsound.

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable