Reviewer's report

Title: Chlamydophila pneumoniae ARDS: successful treatment with extracorporeal membrane oxygenator; a case report and diagnostic review.

Version: 1  Date: 11 July 2011

Reviewer: Dimitrios Lagonidis

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

If other, please specify:

unusual presentation of a disease treated by an unusual technique; diagnosis 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?: No

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. In INTRODUCTION : (at the end of the first paragraph) it would be advisable to specify the first-line antimicrobial treatment against Clamydophylia pneumonia

2. In INTRODUCTION (at the end of the second paragraph) it would be preferrable to add the following ' STUDIES HAVE SHOWN THAT 35-47% of Chl. pneumonia pneumonia is mixed with other pathogens, the most common being str. pneumonia" Cin Infect Dis 1999;29:426 and Chest 2002;12:1776
3. In CASE REPORT at the beginning of the 4th paragraph "arterial blood gas determination..." You should specify the initial blood gas results.

4. In CASE REPORT at the beginning of 5th paragraph " Paired serum samples and Ag......." What does Ag stand for??

5. In CASE REPORT at the end of 6th paragraph It would be advisable to give the full cardio-respiratory data (formatted in a table) before and after the ECMO.

6. In DISCUSSION

   In my opinion your case report is focused on two arms, firstly the successful use of ECMO and secondly the serologic diagnosis of the disease. Therefore I believe that you should dedicate more space for the first arm dealing with the ECMO technique in much more details. You dedicated only half a page for the ECMO and more than two pages for the diagnosis.

7. In DISCUSSION (second paragraph, six line) It would be better to specify the serious sequelae someone could get during the chronic course of the disease in case it remained undetected.

8. In DISCUSSION (last paragraph) According to the diagnostic procedures you thoroughly analysed, in which state (current, reinfection, reactivation) do you classify the patient in the case report??

   Quality of written English: Acceptable