Reviewer's report

Title: A case study of Metformin overdose leading to lactic acidosis: lactate levels not necessarily a predictor of mortality literature review

Version: 2 Date: 22 March 2012

Reviewer: Veniero Gambaro

Which of the 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?: 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:

The case presented could be of interest for intensive care clinicians, however the paper should be revised according to the journal issues.

ABSTRACT:
CASE PRESENTATION: units incorrectly coded.
CONCLUSION: the term "demonstrates" should be substituted with the more attenuated term "evidences or suggests"

INTRODUCTION:
CASE PRESENTATION: laboratory data are insufficient (in particular: complete hemochrome, liver functionality, inflammatory markers, risk
assessment of sepsis, etc). the laboratory methods are not mentioned, as well as the reference intervals; table 1 does not show the units and the reference intervals. Therapeutic treatments are not sufficiently described as regard as the duration and the modality; the glossary for some acronyms is not reported (ex: GCS)

DISCUSSION:
The distinction between hyperlactacidaemia and lactic acidosis is absent, as well as the biochemistry of lactate.
The classification of the causes of lactic acidosis is incomplete.

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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