Reviewer's report

Title: Puerperal Pneumococcal Mastitis: A Case Report and Review of the Literature

Version: 1 Date: 16 January 2013

Reviewer: Tina Q Tan

Which of the following 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?: No

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:

Miedzybrodzki and Miller report the case of pneumococcal puerperal mastitis with review of the literature. The following are comments and questions with regards to the case report.

1. Were the patient's twin infants ill with respiratory systems prior to the mother developing mastitis?

2. Why were nasopharyngeal cultures not obtained on the infants?

3. Given the description of the mother at the time of presentation, it appears that in addition to mastitis, she was also bacteremic even though her blood culture was negative. She sounds much too ill to just have mastitis with her toxic appearance, high fever, HA and syncope and left shift on CBC.
4. What were the prevalent pneumococcal serotypes in the community at the time of this patient's presentation?

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests