Author's response to reviews

Title: A 72-year-old woman with an uncorrected Tetralogy of Fallot presenting with a possible pulmonary endocarditis: a case report.

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Version: 3 Date: 16 March 2013

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Dear Editor,

Here are my responses to the reviewer’s. Hope that this can clarify them and improve the article quality.

First of all, and starting to the reviewer 2 comments, I need to say that we also have some doubts, not because of the TEE result (because the complex heart anatomy didn’t allowed the best images) but mainly because of the localization of the vegetation – downstream to the pulmonary valve. However at discharge, patient didn’t present the image suggestive at vegetation and also after antibiotic therapy for empiric endocarditis, the fever disappear. And that’s why we only put “possible” endocarditis!

Now the responses to the reviewer 1.

1 – The patient has several echocardiograms in the follow-up in cardiology consultation. However, in order to be simple and not to be repetitive, we choose only to present the cardiac MRI.

2 – We have also done the same question… and no answer was found. Moreover, it should be otherwise!

3 – It’s hard to tell this, because sometimes patient only refer sub-febrile temperature, probably because the patient was medicated with four antibiotics and with paracetamol. However, the correction to persistent was made in the manuscript.

4 – Patient collected blood cultures (BC) at admission (but don’t forget that she had been medicated before with four antibiotics) at during hospitalization after the first BC came negative. Also in our Laboratory when there is a suspicion of endocarditis, when the BC are negative they test for the atypical organisms, and they also were negative. Also serology for difficult-to-find pathogens were negative. Correction was made in the manuscript.

5 – I agreed with you. Probably because this manuscript was formatted in a different manner and then I’ve changed. I will make some changes.

Thanks for the comments and hope that you think that now the manuscript is ready.

Best wishes

Pedro Sousa