Author's response to reviews

Title: An Unusual Cause of Facial Pain and Swelling Presenting to the Rheumatologist - Facial Nerve Compression by Posterior Inferior Cerebellar Artery: A Case Report

Authors:

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Version: 2 Date: 20 January 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
Author's response to reviews

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Authors:
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Version: 2 Date: 15 January 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
Reviewer's report #1

Title: An Unusual Cause of Facial Pain and Swelling Presenting to the Rheumatologist - Facial Nerve Compression by Posterior Inferior Cerebellar Artery: A Case Report

Version: 1 Date: 18 November 2013

Reviewer: sherif elwatidy

Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?: An unexpected association between diseases or symptoms

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?: No

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:
The article is well written and gives detailed description of the case and diagnostic workup done.
The case is interesting in its presentation as facial pain and swelling associated with HFS and background of mild connective tissue disease.
The 2nd interesting point is the cause of vascular compression (tortuous course of a branch of the PICA) rather than AICA.
You may add few sentences to discussion explaining the cause of facial pain and swelling in this particular case.

We have now added a paragraph discussing the cause of facial pain and swelling in this particular case.

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests:
I have no competing interest in relation to this paper
Reviewer’s report #2

Title: An Unusual Cause of Facial Pain and Swelling Presenting to the Rheumatologist - Facial Nerve Compression by Posterior Inferior Cerebellar Artery: A Case Report

Version: 1 Date: 20 November 2013

Reviewer: Cara Sedney

Which of the 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?: No

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?: No

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:
This is a well-written manuscript describing a case report of a woman with hemifacial spasm who presented first to her rheumatologist and received a rheumatological workup. In spite of the patient's previous history of rheumatologic diseases, hemifacial spasm caused by vascular compression is not a rare entity and referral comes naturally from a variety of sources depending upon which specialty is available to the patient. The fact that she presented first to a rheumatologist does not seem of high-enough general interest to warrant publication in my opinion, although it may be specifically of interest to rheumatologists, to remind them that new-onset neurologic symptoms warrants a neurologic workup/imaging and referral.

Reviewer #2 did not make any suggestions for changes in the manuscript.

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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