Reviewer's report

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. Inspite 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.
Quality of written English: Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests