Reviewer's report

Title: Satisfactory improvement in a case of sarcoidosis with clarithromycin (CAM) administration: possibility of apoptosis-inducing effect of CAM on sarcoid granulomas

Version: 2 Date: 21 September 2013

Reviewer: Georgios Papaetis

Which of the following 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?: No

Does the case report have explanatory value?: Yes

Does the case report have diagnostic value?: No

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: No

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

Please find below my comments regarding this case report:

1. Was a High Resolution Computed Tomography (HRCT) of the lung performed? Did the patient undergo bronchoscopy? Was bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) performed?
2. Did the patient have environmental or occupational history of beryllium or other metal exposure?
3. Was there any investigation made for CMV, EBV, HBV, HCV, Coxiella burnetti, Toxoplasma species, Brucella species and Bartonella henselae infection?
4. Was a venereal disease research laboratory test made?
5. Were anti-RO, anti-LA, antineutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies and antimitochondrial antibodies performed?

6. Was serum calcium and a 24-hour urinary calcium excretion analysis performed?

7. Was a urine sediment examination performed?

8. Was a culture or polymerase chain reaction for M. tuberculosis and other nontuberculous mycobacteria performed in an affected lymph node?

9. The sensitivity of the Mantoux test in elderly patients with cancer should be discussed.

10. Although the theory that Propionibacterium acnes may act to "prime" the immune system prior to the development of sarcoidosis is intriguing, it is not yet known whether there is any causal relationship between Propionibacterium species or other infectious causes and sarcoidosis. This must be emphasized in the discussion.

11. The text should be proofread and extensively edited.

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.