Author's response to reviews

Title: Gemcitabine induced cardiomyopathy: A case report and review of the literature

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for taking time to review our manuscript. We also appreciate reviewer’s time and suggestions to improve the quality of this article.

The reviewer has asked us to include the diameter of left ventricle before and after the use of gemcitabine. However, unfortunately we don’t have access to this information at this point.

In addition, as recommended by the journal’s editorial office we are going to add these comments in the manuscript

"Written informed consent for publication could not be obtained from the patient as the patient is died and the next-of-kin could not be contacted despite all reasonable attempts. However, every effort has been made to protect patient anonymity and there is no reason to think that the patient or family would object to publication."

Sincerely,

Muhammad F Khan M.D. FACP

Reviewer’s report
Title: Gemcitabine induced cardiomyopathy: A case report and review of the literature
Version: 1 Date: 11 March 2014
Reviewer: Mario Camarda
Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?: Unreported or unusual side effects or adverse interactions involving medications
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?: No
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?: Yes
Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:
The case report is very interesting and it shows a little-known aspect of the use of gemcitabine. The relationship between the use of the drug and the appearance of such a severe depression of systolic function seems clear. Functional recovery of myocardial vitality after suspension of the drug is the proof. Moreover I appreciated the extensive work done by the authors of review of the Literature about cases of cardiotoxicity associated with the use of the drug. It would be very interesting to know the diameter of the left ventricle (not only EF) before and after discontinuation of therapy. But this does not change my positive opinion of the manuscript.

Quality of written English: Acceptable
Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that i have no competing interests.