Author's response to reviews

Title: Schistosomiasis manifesting as a colon polyp: a rare finding

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Version: 5 Date: 31 July 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
Title: Schistosomiasis manifesting as a colon polyp: a case report of a rare finding

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
Object: Journal of Medical Case Reports MS: 6933590211221809- Schistosomiasis manifesting as a colon polyp: a case report of a rare finding

Thank you for consideration of our manuscript for publication in your journal.

We have reviewed the above manuscript according to your reviewer’s comments.

Reviewer # 1 (Dr Fischer)

1) Aside from a few minor grammatical mistakes, I think this is a good paper & worthwhile.
   • THANK YOU!

Reviewer #2: (Dr Jeraldo)

Correct Is still necessary to correct the scientific names: Schistosoma mansoni and S. mansoni should be presented in italics
   • THANK YOU! DONE.

Reviewer #3: (Dr Clerinx)

General comments:

Not well The authors still seem to be somewhat confused when discussing the serological diagnostic tests for schistosomiasis, and their relative importance. Some reformulation could be done in order to highlight a logical sequence of the diagnostic tests in a workup of a suspected case, ...

   • PARAGRAPH RESTRUCTURED FOR CLARIFICATION PURPOSES

This can be left out. Simple rectal biopsies with a small biopsy forceps, such as used during colonoscopy may suffice. If no egg has been reported in biopies of the rectosigmoid section of the colon of the case report patient, this means that the worm burden is probably already very low.

   • I HAD ADDED THE “RECTAL SNIPS” ISSUE BASED ON THE PREVIOUS ADVICE OF THE REVIEWER, I REMOVED IT NOW.

Do mention repeated treatment with praziquantel as a better option. After two treatments with a single dose 4 weeks to 8 weeks apart, parasite load reduction will be > 95%. Oxamnique is rather expensive and difficult to get. Combination of oxamnique with praziquantel has not yielded superior results to either drug alone (ref: Danso-Appiah A, Olliaro PL, Donegan S, Sinclair D, Utzinger J. Drugs for treating Schistosoma mansoni infection. Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2013 Feb 28;2:CD000528)

   • THANK YOU! COMMENT AND REFERENCE ADDED.