Author's response to reviews

Title: Thyroid abscess due to Aspergillosis: a case report

Authors:

Suemi Marui (suemimar@usp.br)
Ariella C.L. Pereira (ariellalima@yahoo.com.br)
Raquel M.A. Maia (uelxy@hotmail.com)
Eduardo F Borba (eborba@lim17.ffm.usp.br)

Version: 5 Date: 10 June 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
Thank you for your email and the opportunity to submit a new revised version of our manuscript.

We greatly appreciated the constructive comments and suggestions and have fully revised the manuscript as suggested by one reviewer.

We highlighted all changes made.

Best regards,

Suemi Marui
Author's response to reviews

Title: Thyroid abscess due to Aspergillosis: a case report

Version: 4 Date: 29 April 2014

Authors:

Suemi Marui: suemimar@usp.br
Ariella Cabral de Lima Pereira: ariellalima@yahoo.com.br
Raquel Maria de Araújo Maia: quelxy@hotmail.com
Eduardo Ferreira Borba: eborba@lim17.fm.usp.br

We thank you for your comments and important observations. Please find below our answers and changes were highlighted.

- The macroscopic features of obtained Aspergillus colonies should be defined in both abstract and case presentation, including general feature of colonies and how long it has been taken the colony appears.

  R: We added in abstract and in case report that it takes about 10 days to define Aspergillus fumigatus. Unfortunately I and co-authors are not able to describe the macroscopic characteristics that defined Aspergillus fumigatus. We used our Microbiology Service as Aspergillus was detected in at least two samples of thyroid secretion.

- The word Aspergillus spp is not acceptable. There are over 200 named species of Aspergillus. Notably, polyphasic taxonomy has had a major impact on the species concept of the genus Aspergillus. On the other hands new sibling species of A. fumigatus exhibit in vitro susceptibility profiles that differ significantly from that of A. fumigatus. This has a major impact on choice of treatment. If there is no data to confirm species of aspergillus, the authors are suggested to change the title of their manuscript accordingly.

  R: Species was defined as A. fumigatus.

- In the absence of histopathological slides, the author are suggested to report
the full cytopathological features, including surrounding cells, any dichotomous observation of hyphae, diameter of the hyphae, and ... .

R: I and co-authors are not specialists in Microbiology and we think that it is very hard to us to describe Aspergillus characteristics in details in a Case Report that we want to alert Clinicians.

- Furthermore, the role of PCR should not be underestimated as the author responded in their response file. There are a strong body of literature on the application and standardization of this technique.

R: It was not my intention to underestimate the role of PCR. Unfortunately our Institution does not perform it routinely.