Reviewer’s report

Title: Thyroid abscess due to Aspergillosis: a case report

Version: 4 Date: 29 April 2014

Reviewer: Seyedmojtaba Seyedmousavi

Which of the following 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?: No

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?: Yes

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: Yes

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

Marui et al. et al have done considerable work to improve the manuscript. However some comments raised by this reviewer have not been taken into account, which seems necessary to be addressed:

- 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.

- 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.

- 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 … .

- 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.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests