Reviewer’s report

Title: A Caucasian Australian Presenting with HTLV-1 Associated Myelopathy: A Case Report

Version: 1 Date: 1 August 2014

Reviewer: Giovanna Zorzi

Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?: Presentations, diagnoses and/or management of new and emerging diseases

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?: 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 authors describe a caucasian male patient with HTLV-1 spastic paraparesis; this man lived for years in an Aboriginal community where the virus is endemic and where he contracted the infection. The authors underline the importance to consider this diagnosis in the Australian population.

The case report is well written and exhaustive with detailed clinical and follow-up information.

If available, it can be interesting to have information about the cognitive and psychiatric profile of this patient and to add a comment whether this profile can be considered within the spectrum of HTLV-1 neurological manifestation.
Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests