Reviewer's report

**Title:** Spontaneous Splenic Rupture: Deciphering the Infectious Causes

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 8 July 2014

**Reviewer:** James Winearls

Which of the 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?: 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:

A well written paper with a good, concise, relevant review of the possible aetiology of atraumatic splenic rupture.

My only comments regard tidying up the abstract a bit.

"etiology can oft times be difficult" - slightly odd sentence construction.

"sudden atraumatic splenic rupture in the absence of trauma" - double negative as atraumatic splenic rupture clearly happens in the absence of trauma.

**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