Reviewer’s report

Title: Elevated brain aluminium and early onset Alzheimer’s disease in an individual occupationally exposed to aluminium.

Version: 1 Date: 19 December 2013

Reviewer: Christopher A Shaw

Which of the following following best describes what type of case report this is?: Findings that shed new light on the possible pathogenesis of a disease or an adverse effect

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:

The case reports an individual heavily exposed to aluminium who later developed Alzheimer’s disease. This report further strengthens the association between exposure to aluminium and AD.

Two points that would improve the ms:

1. Control values (range) for non AD samples to gain a more detailed appreciation of the levels in the current case. I would expect such values would be in the existing literature.

2. Some explanation of the variance in the 50 measurements across frontal cortex. If aluminium is indeed causal to the disorder and if it is associated as reported elsewhere with plaques and tangles, one might expect to find it rather
uniformly distributed as are the other features.

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests:

No conflicts