Reviewer's report

Title: Multidisciplinary approach in an unusual presentation of locally advanced gastric cancer. A case report.

Version: 4
Date: 11 September 2014
Reviewer: Efstathios Kotidis

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?: No

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?: No

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

The case you presented is a perfect example of what NOT to do in case of advanced inoperable gastric cancer. If an elderly patient is considered unfit for neoadjuvand chemotherapy she is definately unfit for major surgery like the one you have described. The patient passed away from pneumonia and this was directly related to the major operation she underwent. We cannot claim that pneumonia was completely irrelevant. I understand that you had to give a solution in an unusual case, however you could have tried to stent the tumor first, in order to help the fistula heal and support the patients nutrition with a nasojejunal tube. In any case publishing this case may create a false impression that there are no limits to what a surgeon should operate on. I belive that your patient should only recieve palliative treatment and you should not proceed to such an extensive dissection. Your result confirms that your choice to operate on
was not right. Thus, I suggest that this paper should not be published.

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

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