Reviewer's report

Title: A rare case of a splenic hamartoma in a patient with a huge palpable abdominal mass: a case report

Version: 4 Date: 24 September 2014

Reviewer: Demosthenes Cokkinos

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:

General comments: This is a very interesting case presentation of an uncommon entity of the spleen. It is well structured and communicates all the relevant information to the reader. I believe that it should be published, provided that a few language and structural corrections are made:

Title page:
• The full names of the authors (not only 1st initial) should be mentioned.
• Since the authors come from 2 Departments, only numbers 1, 2 should be used. The author list (with the addition of first names) should be: P.Vlachou1, D.Fagkrezos*2, A.Tzivelopoulou1, G.Kyriakopoulou1, P.Maniatis2, Ch.Triantopoulou1, J.Papailiou2.
Abstract:

Introduction:

• “It represents a benign vascular proliferation” should be “They represent a benign vascular proliferation.”

Case presentation:

“incidentally with an enormous splenic hamartoma by CT” should be “incidentally with an enormous splenic hamartoma on CT”

Conclusion

“haemopoetic” should be “hemopoetic”, since American English are used

Introduction:

“In terms of structure and function, spleen consists of…” should be “In terms of structure and function, the spleen consists of…”

“detection of small and asymptomatic lesion is now easy” should be “detection of small and asymptomatic lesions is now easy”

Case presentation:

“An abdomen CT was performed, and images before the administration of contarst material…” should be “An abdominal CT was performed and images before the administration of contrast material”.

“disorganized vessels of several width,..” should be “disorganized vessels of variable width,..”

Discussion:

“lymphagioma” should be “lymphangioma”

“This rare lesion was first described 1991..” should be “This rare lesion was first described in 1991”

“It seems to occur…” should be “They seem to occur..”

“(thrombocytopenia, anaemia, pancytopenia)” should be “(thrombocytopenia, anemia, pancytopenia)”

A list of abbreviations (CT, MR, US) should be added

References:

Reference (6) is not mentioned in the text and reference (7) follows (5) (page
4).

- References 7, 8 should be corrected: The authors’ full names are not required, only 1st initials. The months of publication are not required.
- Reference 10: The chapter with corresponding pages of the book should be mentioned.

**Level of interest:** An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests