Author’s response to reviews

Title: An etiological reappraisal of pancytopenia - largest series reported to date from a single tertiary care teaching hospital

Authors:

Arvind Jain (drarvind.jain@yahoo.com)
Manjiri Naniwadekar (drarvindj@rediffmail.com)

Version: 3 Date: 5 September 2013

Author’s response to reviews: see over
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Authors:

Arvind Jain (drarvind.jain@yahoo.com)
Majiri Naniwadekar (drarvindj@rediffmail.com)

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Dear Ms. Patricia Marie Ratin,

We refer to your e-mail dated 30th August 2013 and thank you and the two external reviewers for all your efforts with our manuscript. Thanks for your kind suggestion to revise and resubmit our piece of work to BMC Hematology.

The comments from the editorial office and those of the reviewers were highly insightful and enabled us to improve the quality of our manuscript. In the following pages are our point-by-point responses to each of those questions and comments, clearly indicating where in the manuscript (page numbers) changes have been made.

We hope that the revision in the manuscript and our accompanying responses will be sufficient to make our manuscript suitable for publication in BMC Hematology. Thus herewith we would like to resubmit the revised version of our manuscript “An etiological reappraisal of pancytopenia - largest series reported to date from a single tertiary care teaching hospital” for publication as an original article in BMC Hematology.

We shall look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Best wishes and Regards.

Yours sincerely,
Arvind Jain
Director / HOD – Laboratory Medicine Department,
Imperial College London Diabetes Centre (ICLDC),
P.O. Box no. – 222464,
Al Ain, U.A.E.
Response To Reviewer’s Comments

Reviewer: Patricia Marie Ratin

Version: 2

Date: 30 August 2013

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revisions

May we kindly request for an additional editorial revision for the manuscript detailed above. We strongly urge you to make these changes promptly, as we cannot proceed to the next process until we have received a version containing the changes.

The title of your manuscript states that this is the largest series reported till date from a teaching hospital. We would request that you clarify whether this means throughout the world or whether it is in your country or the developing world?

We thank the Editorial office for this important remark. Our extensive review of the literature on this topic makes us believe that this is the largest series reported to date from a single tertiary care teaching hospital in the world and we are sure that it is the largest reported series to date in our country - India and from the developing world.

Although pancytopenia is a relatively common hematological entity and a serious clinical problem with exhaustive differential diagnoses, there is relatively little discussion on this abnormality in major textbooks of hematology and internal medicine.

A look at literature shows that there aren’t many comprehensive studies on this subject from developed world, though extensive studies have been done for its individual etiological factors like aplastic anemia, megaloblastic anemia, leukemia, myelodysplastic syndrome, etc.

Also, the correct phrasing is "reported to date" rather than "till date".

We thank the Editorial office for this important constructive comment and suggestion. The title has been revised and now reads as ‘An etiological reappraisal of pancytopenia - largest series reported to date from a single tertiary care teaching hospital’, (Titles on Title and Abstract pages of the manuscript).