Reviewer's report

Title: Intraductal papillary mucinous carcinoma of the pancreas associated with pancreas divisum: a case report and review of the literature

Version: 3  Date: 21 April 2015

Reviewer: Puneet Dhar

Reviewer's report:

Interesting case report of a combination of IPMN occurring with pancreas divisum. Other published cases reporting this combination have also been reviewed. The difference here is the presentation in the ventral anlage of pancreas.

Discretionary Revisions:

1. There is a significant overlap of reviewed cases with a previous publication from Italy (Zippi and Quarto, J Gastroint Dig Syst 2014, 4:171 available online at http://dx.doi.org/10.4172/2161-069X.1000171). The current submission has 12 of the cases in Table 1 mentioned in a table in the earlier publication (omitting 1). It may be preferable to allude to this publication and tabulate only the 2 fresh cases added in this submission.

2. The diagnosis of Pancreas divisum has been established in the reported case by ERCP. However since there is a coexistent tumour (IPMN here, it is possible that it is incomplete divisum and the connection with main pancreatic duct has been obscured by tumour obstruction. It may not be the case - but the possibility should be alluded to.

3. Color images may be preferable especially in the pathology and endoscopy images!

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

No conflict of interest