Reviewer's report

Title: Massive pneumoretroperitoneum complicated with emphysematous cholecystitis: A case report and the literature review

Version: 3 Date: 6 July 2015

Reviewer: Michael Pitiakoudis

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revisions
1. Please use no abbreviations in the abstract such as EC and CT, according to journal’s instructions.
2. While going through your manuscript, I was not able to locate any data to support that you did not perform an abdominal ultrasound but you preferred an abdominal x-ray and CT instead. Ultrasound is the most common imaging modality currently employed to visualize the gallbladder, especially those patients with the clinical suspicion of acute cholecystitis. This modality helps detect acute emphysematous cholecystitis earlier than plain abdominal radiography and identifies the condition in 90-95% of cases. Also, ultrasound can estimate the exact stage of this disorder.
3. Did you manage to stabilize the patient with fluid replacement and immediate use of antibiotics before the surgery as you mentioned that the patient was diagnosed with sepsis?
4. It is not clear why was the patient transferred to another hospital after his recovery? Was any other complication induced by the patient’s management?
5. Please provide an histological figure if it is possible.

Minor essential revisions
1. On page 1 - line 9, it would be preferable as "authors’ emails" or "email addresses".
2. Please indicate the corresponding author with *.
3. Please add the normal ranges of the laboratory tests that you present.
4. On page 4 - line 15, please write 26,800/µL.
5. Please complete the references 6,11,17 according to the journal's style.
6. Please add if there are any competing interests.

Discretionary revisions
1. The title should probably be more representative.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field
Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.