Reviewer's report

Title: Case report: lactic acidosis and rhabdomyolysis during telbivudine and tenofovir treatment for chronic hepatitis B

Version: 0 Date: 13 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Yee Hui Yeo

Reviewer's report:
In this case report, the authors reported a case of lactic acidosis and rhabdomyolysis during telbivudine and tenofovir treatment for chronic hepatitis B. The case is well presented. Several comments are as follow:

1. The authors need to indicate if the patient has any important comorbidities such as diabetes or chronic kidney disease.
2. The authors need to indicate if the patient has any concurrent drug use, any chinese herb or nutrition supplementary use.
3. (page 4, row 20-21) The authors need to present the results of other liver function test such as AST, bilirubin (total, indirect) at this point, if applicable.
4. (page 4, row 21-22) The authors need to justify the indication for doing abdominal MRI at this time point. With a patient presenting neurological symptoms at lower limbs and the mentioned lab results, abdominal MRI is not my first consideration.
5. (page 5, row 2) Did the patient receive any treatment after receiving the arterial blood gas results?
6. (page 5, row 3-19) In addition to the presentation of myalgia, lab, EMG and biopsy results, the authors also need to mention other urine color, urine output, and present lab results including electrolytes, uric acid and follow-up arterial blood gas results.
7. (page 5, row 3-19) The authors did not provide any clues from history taking to support the diagnosis of LA and RM and to rule out other differential diagnosis. For example, any fever, any history of injury, any other concurrent drugs, any chinese herbs or nutrition supplantations...
8. (page 6, row 2-3) The authors should justify the change from Entecavir to tenofovir disoproxil in the discussion. Is that due to the suspected resistance to Telbivudine? Any guideline that can support this change? etc.

9. (page 8, row 10-12) these clues should be moved to the clinical presentation.

10. The authors should discuss and compare the severe adverse events of trials that have investigated the efficacy and safety of Telbivudine + Tenofovir combination therapy in chronic hepatitis B patients. (2013, 52-Week Efficacy and Safety of Telbivudine with Conditional Tenofovir Intensification at Week 24 in HBeAg-Positive Chronic Hepatitis B) (2014, Early Viral Kinetics with Telbivudine, Tenofovir or Combination of Both in Immunotolerant Patients with Hepatitis B e Antigen-Positive Chronic Hepatitis B)

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.
Unable to assess

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.
Unable to assess

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.
Unable to assess

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.
Not relevant to this manuscript

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