Reviewer's report

Title: Portal hypertension as the initial manifestation of POEMS syndrome: a case report

Version: 2 Date: 10 Jan 2017

Reviewer: Roger Pearse

Reviewer's report:

Wu et al present a case of POEMS with portal hypertension. While this clinical association has been published previously, this is the first published case report demonstrating reversal of portal hypertension following successful treatment of POEMS, and thereby strengthens the potential association. The authors explain how the current presentation differs from the hepatomegaly and ascites typically found in patients with POEMS. Potential etiologies for the development of portal vein fibrosis leading to portal hypertension are also discussed. However, no data is presented to confirm or refute these mechanisms, or to explain the intriguing question of why portal fibrosis is a rare complication of POEMS, when fibrosis typically present in other organs such as skin.

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
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Not relevant to this manuscript
Quality of written English
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Needs some language corrections before being published

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