Reviewer's report

Title: A case report of severe recurrent varicella in an ankylosing spondylitis patient treated with adalimumab – a new side effect after 15 years of usage

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Reviewer: Ravi Mahalingam

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Skuhala et al., present a case of a 34-yr-old patient with disseminated skin rash and pneumonitis. They detected VZV-specific Ig G, A and M antibodies in serum and VZV DNA in vesicular fluid. Since the patient has had chickenpox at 5 years of age, the current episode is probably due to reactivation of latent VZV (zoster). The authors need to address this important issue. They repeatedly identify the episode as varicella which is not correct although the overall goal of the study is to show that treatment with adalimumab results in reactivation of latent VZV.

Line 78: A VZV-seropositive patient exposed to child with chickenpox may not present with varicella.

Lines 90, 96, 110, 115 and 128: recurrent varicella infection should be changed to zoster.

Figure 2: nodule infiltration should be identified using arrows.

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
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