Reviewer’s report

Title: Detection of varicella-zoster virus from cerebrospinal fluid using advanced fragment analysis in a child with encephalitis: A case report

Version: 1 Date: 24 Feb 2019

Reviewer: Benhur Çetin

Reviewer's report:

For author and editor;

Subject: Detection of varicella-zoster virus from cerebrospinal fluid using advanced fragment analysis in a child with encephalitis: A case report

I read with great interest in the submitted report. I think that some important points are not clear;

Was that VZV infection in their patient primary? We know that primary infection with the VZV usually manifests with rashes (chickenpox), but reactivation of VZV can present with different clinical manifestations. Reactivation of VZV from the geniculate ganglion, the nucleus of the sensory root of the facial nerve, can cause peripheral facial weakness as well as rash around the ear, known as Ramsay Hunt syndrome. So, it would be herpes zoster with CNS complication. The patient's VZV serological status may help us at this point. In the case section and discussion, those points should be mentioned.

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?
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

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:
Acceptable

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