Reviewer’s report

Title: Disseminated cryptococcosis presenting initially as lower limb cellulitis in a renal transplant recipient - A Case Report

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Reviewer: Pranatharthi H. Chandrasekar

Reviewer’s report:

This is a concise, well written instructive case report of disseminated cryptococcosis presenting as bilateral leg cellulitis in a renal transplant recipient.

Authors make an important point that cryptococcal cellulitis in an immunocompromised host should prompt search for disseminated disease including CNS involvement despite the absence of clinical signs/symptoms.

There are other such case reports, however the important clinical pearl, well highlighted in this paper, is worthy of repetition.

I have a few comments that need to be addressed.

1. Bilateral cellulitis- patient had bilateral disease raising the suspicion for systemic involvement. The paper should emphasise the point that this pt had bilateral disease which makes focal cutaneous infection less likely.

2. CSF data- pl provide wbc count, protein/sugar levels.

3. Was treatment started on 8/14 once crypto cellulitis was diagnosed? During the 6 wk period after developing skin involvement ,was he on therapy before dissemination was diagnosed?(Page 5, lines 15,16).

4. Dose of liposomal ampho B- mg/kg. Were there any renal issues with tacrolimus and amphoB?

5. How soon did the csf become sterile after treatment was started?

6. The pt was kept in hospital for 6 wks to receive Ampho B.. Why was he not discharged sooner on po fluconazole, after CSF became sterile?

7. plan for duration of maintenance fluconazole? Guidelines suggest 6-12 months.

8. There are 7 figures in all, may be reduced to 3-4. Pl provide stains used, magnification and description of the histologic findings.
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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