Reviewer’s report

Title: Sarcomatoid renal cell carcinoma: A case report and literature review

Version: 1 Date: 20 Jun 2017

Reviewer: James Hsieh

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Sarcomatoid transformation of RCC (sRCC) is highly aggressive and this case study presents such an example. It is important to raise clinical awareness of the atypical presentations of sRCC using this case. However, there are many major concerns that need to be addressed.

1) The writing is very poor, which needs a professional writer to completely re-write/edit the paper.

2) Since this paper wishes to review relevant literatures, it is essential for the authors to update and include pertinent papers.

For example,

i) A general RCC review should be included, such as Hsieh JJ et al. 2017 Nat Rev Dis Primers PMID 28276433

ii) Treatment updates on sRCC regarding targeted therapies, such as Kariakopoulos CE et al. 2015 Clin Genitourin Cancer. PMID 25450036, and Voss MH et al. 2014 Ann Oncol PMID 24458473

iii) Molecular updates on sRCC are needed, such as Bi M. et al. 2016 PNAS PMID 26864202, and Malouf G.G. et al. 2016, Eur Euro PMID 26895810

iv) Radiogenomics of RCC, such as Karlo et al. 2014, Radiology, PMID 24029645

3) The 7 references cited on the significance of sarcomatoid changes and poor clinical outcome should be simplified to one or two key papers since it is a well recognized feature.

4) A few things learned from this sarcomatoid case should be discussed in addition to the potential benefit to avoid/delay surgery

For example,

i) the young age of this patient,
ii) the unusual high PET activity,

iii) the role of biopsy in this case,

iv) the need of early intervention with targeted therapy

**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.

No

**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:

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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