Reviewer’s report

Title: IgG4-related kidney disease (IgG4-RKD) with membranous nephropathy as its initial manifestation: report of one case and literature review

Version: 0 Date: 18 Oct 2018

Reviewer: Mihir Ravi Atreya

Reviewer's report:

In this manuscript, Zhang and colleagues report a case of 46 year old male with chronic bilateral lacrimal inflammation, who presented with nephrotic syndrome, with initial renal biopsy with evidence of membranous nephropathy and no evidence of interstitial involvement. The patient was noted was treated appropriately and on subsequently presented with evidence of nephrotic syndrome and acute kidney injury. Repeat biopsy revealed evidence of tubulo-interstitial involvement. The authors make a case for high index of suspicion for IgG4 Related Kidney Disease in patients with evidence of multi-system disease process, increase IgG4 level, negative PLA2R, and renal interstitial plasma cell infiltration.

Overall, the manuscript is well written and the image quality is adequate. The case report is sufficiently novel to report in the literature. Confounding causes of nephropathy appear to be less likely. The authors have highlighted how clinicians may distinguish Membranous Nephropathy due to IgG4 Related Kidney Disease from Primary Membranous Nephropathy, and manage the condition appropriately.

Minor revisions that the may improve the manuscript are suggested:
1. Line 44-45 of Page 2. Please specify which medication was stopped—corticosteroids, cyclophosmaide or both.
2. Table 2: Clarify line on "Hormone Dosage" and what the authors are referring to.

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?
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