Reviewer’s report

Title: Membranoproliferative glomerulonephritis related to a Streptococcal infection in a girl with IgA deficiency: A case report

Version: 1 Date: 26 Oct 2019

Reviewer: Claire Harris

Reviewer's report:

The authors present a case which seems rare enough in the pediatric literature to present but the hypothesis/uniqueness of the case needs to be weighed against the question of the diagnosis in this case.

The authors mention that this could be a case of SIRN which seems most likely to me but fail to give enough details regarding 1) the indication for renal biopsy given the non-severe presentation and high likelihood of improvement with supportive management for suspected PIGN/PSGN. 2) The clinical features or course that led them to pursue aggressive immunosuppressive treatment i.e. was the serum creatinine worsening?, were there any other worrisome signs. 3) what was the authors thoughts on SIRN vs alternate diagnoses - how would the path findings differ as C3/IgG would be expected in PIGN/SIRN so why does IgAD matter, this could be flushed out more 4) why was the patient re-biopsied 4 years later?

The authors should additionally provide rationale for the choice of their treatments, why not PSL alone if immunosuppression is going to be used, why add MZR? What is the reason that warfarin was used? We need more clinical data and rationale to better explain the management in this case. I would also be interested in more details on how quickly the patient improved.

The writing style and language is good.

Please confirm that you have included your review in the ‘Comments to Author’ box?

As a minimum standard, please include a few sentences that outline what you think are the authors’ hypothesis/objectives, their main results, and the conclusions drawn. Your report should constructively instruct authors on how they can strengthen their paper to the point where it may be acceptable for publication, or provide detailed reasons as to why the manuscript does not fulfill our criteria for consideration. Please supply appropriate evidence using examples from the manuscript to substantiate your comments. Please break your comments into two bulleted or numbered sections: major and minor comments.

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Are the methods appropriate and well described to allow independent reproduction of experiments?
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Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
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NA

Are you able to assess the statistics?
- Are the statistical test(s) used in this study appropriate and well described?
- Is the exact sample size (n) reported for each experimental group/condition (as a number, not a range)?
- Are the description of any error bars and probability values appropriate?
- Are all error bars defined in the corresponding figure legends?
- Has a sample size calculation been included, or a description and rationale about how sample sizes were chosen?

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