Reviewer's report

**Title:** Subarachnoid small vein occlusion due to inflammatory fibrosis—a possible mechanism for cerebellar infarction in cryptococcal meningoencephalitis: a case report

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 12 Apr 2017

**Reviewer:** Avi Fellner

**Reviewer's report:**

This is an interesting case with a very demonstrative thorough pathological analysis and practical implications.

1. It should be mentioned in the manuscript that small arteries occlusion may have also contributed to the clinical picture (in addition to the venous pathology).

2. Venous thrombosis secondary to cryptococcal meningitis is rare, but has been described before. Please refer to other reports regarding this issue (for example: "A rare cause of cerebral venous thrombosis: cryptococcal meningoencephalitis" by Senadim S et al. PMID 27025504)

3. Did this patient have an MR-venography? If so, and if this test was normal, then consider indicating in the title and in the manuscript that the damage was caused in the "small veins" (as opposed to large cerebral venous sinuses).

4. Description of some pertinent parameters in the CSF is needed:

   a. Was LP performed, and what was the opening pressure? - If LP was not applicable due to posterior fossa edema please note it in the text.

   b. Other CSF parameters (cell count, protein, glucose).
5. If no prominent meningeal enhancement and/or nodules were found in the brain MR imaging, then indicate this in more emphasized manner in the manuscript, since this is an important negative finding in the context of cryptococcal meningitis.

6. In the conclusion part, I suggest considering to change part of the sentence to a more general conclusion: "In this case, the temporal change in perifocal edema and ischemic lesions suggested an etiology different from a simple arterial infarction"

7. Please change the term "atheromatous" to "arterial".

8. Include an insert of greater magnification in figure 3-A to demonstrate more clearly the inflammatory infiltration of the subarachnoid space.

9. Add marks to indicate the parenchyma and the subarachnoid space in figure-3C.

Sincerely,

Dr. Avi Fellner

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**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.

Unable to assess

**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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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