Reviewer’s report

Title: Isolated and repeated stroke-like episodes in a middle-aged man with a mitochondrial ND3 T10158C mutation: a case report.

Version: 0 Date: 02 Aug 2017

Reviewer: Salman Al Jerdi

Reviewer’s report:

Dear authors,

Congratulations on a well-written paper. I think the overall paper was great, and you clearly thought about the mechanism of disease. I think it should be published at this journal, but I have some recommendations that I think you should consider

1. I think you did a good job stating that the mutation MAY cause the disease, as the burden of proof for this is difficult even with a much higher number of cases.

2. The pattern you describe with occipital lobe involvement may be seen with conditions such as PRES, CNS vasculitis, and some other rare conditions. I do not see in the paper a mention or discussion of these possibilities and how they were ruled out. For example, although your patient was very thin, his systolic BP was 158. This is presumably high due to anxiety or symptoms, but a discussion about hypertensive encephalopathy is due. Also, CNS vasculitis, RCVS, and other conditions are usually addressed with vessel imaging initially. I do not see a discussion about vessel imaging. Did you guys perform invasive or non-invasive angiography? If so, please include it.

3. Why do you think this mutation only presented in adult-life, with such high burden of mutation (80%)? This may be difficult to answer, but should be addressed if possible, since such mutations are usually quite devastating. Also, what do you think is the significance to the mutation being found in the muscles and not the WBCs? How does this speak to the time/stage at which the mutation occurs?

Again, great job on the paper. I am excited to learn more about your future work.

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

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Not relevant to this manuscript

**Quality of written English**
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Acceptable

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