Reviewer's report

Title: Acute alcohol intoxication may cause delay in stroke treatment - Case reports

Version: 1 Date: 23 Sep 2018

Reviewer: Auwal Abdullahi

Reviewer's report:

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Abstract

Page 2

Background

Line 2: Remove 'to'

Case Presentations

Lines 24-39: Please you should mention some demographic characteristics such as age and sex of the participants. Also you need to state how the acute intoxication and the stroke were diagnosed and for how long the treatments were delayed.

Conclusion

Lines 41-58: While all that you mentioned here is important, it is good that you summarize the passage and make it clear. Especially now that you need more things under the case presentations section

Page 3

Line 2: Please consider using appropriate key words (MesH terms)

Page 4

Background

Line 2: Add 'help' after 'time is important to'
One of the conditions that may mimic stroke is acute alcohol intoxication. Specifically, alcohol intoxication results in symptoms very similar to vertebrobasilar ischemia (cite here); and thus simultaneous occurrence of vertebrobasilar stroke and alcohol intoxication may result in misdiagnosis of stroke. The common signs and symptoms, dizziness, dysarthria, nystagmus, ataxia with or without double vision and somnolence shared by vertebrobasilar stroke and alcohol intoxication, can easily be attributed to the effect of acute alcohol consumption, and the misdiagnosis may consequently cause delay in stroke recognition and failure to perform proper therapy (cite here).
Lines 24-34: This should be 'Similarly, Duplex ultrasound did not show stenosis of the carotid or vertebral arteries; however TCD revealed high pulsatility index and low flow velocity in the basilar artery. Due to the fast progression and the sound suspicion of the basilar artery occlusion, DSA was performed. DSA showed basilar artery occlusion; and therefore intraarterial thrombolysis was done.

Lines 24-34: Write TCD and DSA first in full before abbreviating them.

Line 46: 'ethanol' not 'etanol'

Line 48: Add 'and' after 'speech'

Line 51: trunk not trunc

Line 53: It should be 'consumption; however'

Page 6

Line 9: It should be 'improvement, and the NIHSS'

Line 19: It should be 'early in the morning (5 a.m.), the patient opened……'

Line 22: drunk not drunken
Line 27: It should be 'the relatives realized that he had facial asymmetry, 

Line 29: It should be 'on admission,'  

Line 29: Do you mean 'right facial nerve palsy'? Or what do you mean by right central palsy? I am hearing this terminology for the first time, even though my mind tells me that, the central may refer to CNS involvement. Better still, do you mean cranial?  

Line 34: Write MCA in full at first mention  

Discussion and Conclusion  

Line 53: This citation (7) should be placed after 'older' in line 48  

Line 56: Merge this paragraph with the previous one  

Page 7  

Line 5: 'immediate' not 'immediately'  

Line 7: Resemble 'to'  

Line 36: Merge this paragraph with the previous one  

Line 51: Condition not disease
Line 2: Cite a study or studies from the literature that used diffusion weighted MRI to diagnose stroke

Line 14: Merge this paragraph with the previous one

Line 22: You can add a sentence at the end of the paragraph like 'Thrombolysis therapy helps prevent complications and improve outcomes after stroke (citation here).' This is to help you have at least one citation in the paragraph since it is not conventional to have a whole paragraph without citation.

Line 32: There should be a comma after 'consumed'

Page 9

Line 9: 'With' not 'wit'

Line 17: 'for' not 'of'

General Comment

This is a very good study that will help us understand the differential diagnosis of stroke more.

The CARE guideline requires that, submission of a case report be accompanied with study timeline which will include statements on the perceptions of the patients about the management or treatment. However, I cannot see any timeline accompanying your submission.
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.

Yes

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.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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