Reviewer's report

Title: Diagnosis of adult-onset MELAS syndrome in a 63-year-old patient with suspected recurrent strokes – a case report

Version: 0 Date: 27 Feb 2019

Reviewer: Benjamin Tan

Reviewer's report:

The authors present an interesting case of an older adult with MELAS and the chameleons which can be differentiated on neuroimaging and clinically. This is a comprehensive case illustration with a complete clinical-laboratory-radiological-histopathological and genetic workup; however a few concerns and points should be clarified prior to publication.

* Title: 63 year-old may not be considered an "elderly", suggest using "older adult" instead or adult-onset

* Background: "Clinical manifestation typically occurs before the age of 40" - could you please provide a reference

* "Duplex sonography confirmed moderate atheroma of the right carotid bifurcation without relevant stenosis, which was considered a possible cause." - the atheroma seems to be on the wrong side of the stroke. Please clarify.

* Please recheck the manuscript for spelling and grammatical errors. E.g. Clinical course and EEG findings improved under antiepileptic therapy with lacosamide "und" levetiracetam. E.g.2 "hypoparathyreoidism"

* In the discussion, the authors mention raised serum lactate and creatine kinase. This was not reported in the initial case presentation. Please do report the serum lactate and CK levels in the case writeup.
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.

I am able to assess the statistics

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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