Reviewer’s report

Title: INCREASED INCIDENCE OF SUSAC SYNDROME: A CASE SERIES STUDY

Version: 1  Date: 21 Jun 2020

Reviewer's report:

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This is a well described case series of patients diagnosed with Susac syndrome. I have a few comments that should be addressed in a revised version:

- diagnostic procedures: did patients receive spinal cord MRI? Data on potential SC involvement is scant so it would be interesting to learn more about SC affection if available. Was OCT done? This is also an emerging diagnostic tool showing very specific changes in SuS. If not, this should be mentioned as limitation and discussed in light of the pertinent literature, see PMID: 26200513, PMID: 26203089
- results / findings: CSF should be added to the table for each individual patient, this is important as CSF changes in SuS have not been thoroughly investigated
- brain biopsy: in which region of the brain was this performed, leptomeningeal?
- please report whether there was callosal atrophy or hypointense callosal lesions in any of your patients, this is another characteristic imaging feature, please see and add PMID: 22711711. This feature can also be detected at lower field strengths
- did you assess lesion evolution over time on follow-up MRI? It would be interesting to learn if lesions disappeared or remained constant, if atrophy of the CC and the entire brain progressed-the latter can be assessed non-quantitatively on FU scans
- discussion: see above on OCT plus refs - should be touched upon
  – what do the authors believe is the reason for the increase in incidence of SuS?
  – were patients re-tested for CMV upon FU? Could also briefly be mentioned in the results section
  – treatment of SuS: important to mention that MS drugs may worsen / exacerbate, please see and add PMID: 26445727

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No

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

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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

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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

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