Reviewer’s report

Title: Earliella scabrosa-associated Postoperative Endophthalmitis after Phacoemulsification with Intraocular Lens Implantation: a Case Report

Version: 0 Date: 04 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Sang-Mok Lee

Reviewer’s report:

This manuscript is a case report of postoperative endophthalmitis by Earliella scabrosa, a plant pathogen which has not been reported before.

1. There is a recent human case report of opportunistic infection suspected by Earliella scabrosa (PMID: 28221210). Some of the descriptions in the abstract and conclusion should be changed because this is not the first case of human infection by Earliella scabrosa. And also the article should be cited in this article.

2. It would be better if the author could add a detailed history of the patient within one month of cataract surgery. The ophthalmic history of this period is difficult to accept in a few points.

   a. If the endophthalmitis started within 3 days of surgery, how was the infected eye maintained for one month only with levofloxacin topical medication without antifungal therapy?

   b. Why did the eye surgeon continue to administer levofloxacin eye drops alone for one month without providing other treatment options such as intravitreal injection?

   c. Was there any occupational or environmental risk factor that could increase exposure to Earliella scabrosa in the patient or surgery hospital?

   d. In the first human infection case with Earliella scabrosa was an opportunistic infection in the immune-compromised state and resulted in mortality despite a massive antifungal agent (PMID: 28221210). However, for this case, the patient was not in a severely immune-compromised state (though the patient had diabetes) and the clinical course was very mild. How can you explain this discrepancy?

3. Is the sequence of the amplified ITS PCR product in a strain isolated in this study 100% similarity to Earliella scabrosa using the National Center for Biological Information (NCBI) GenBank database? If not, please add a similarity percentage to Earliella scabrosa and then provide information about other possible organisms and percentages of the similarity.

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

No

**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.

No

**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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