Reviewer’s report

Title: Pyogenic spondylitis and paravertebral abscess caused by Salmonella Saintpaul in an immunocompetent 13-year-old child: a case report

Version: 0 Date: 07 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Christoph-Eckhard Heyde

Reviewer's report:

The authors describe in detail the problems resulting from an initially misguided assumption. On the first view the initial approach, also from the retrospective view, seemed to be appropriate. However, the complications in the clinical course required a re-evaluation. The underlying pathogen could only be diagnosed by a consequent investigation. Knowing that, the repetition of the medical history showed suspicious circumstances as possible pathogen sources.

However, I have some remarks.

* The authors should give us further information about the follow-up time and the follow-up intervals and the images done at the final follow-up.

* Furthermore I believe the scientific value of the figure 5 is not high, thus I would recommend withdrawing this and to replace it by a follow-up X-ray or MRI scan.

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

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

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