Reviewer's report

Title: Clinical and Radiological Characteristics of Patients with Late-Onset Severe Restrictive Lung Defect After Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation

Version: 1 Date: 08 Aug 2017

Reviewer: Adele Valentini

Reviewer's report:

The development of "Late Onset Non-Infectious Pulmonary Complication's" after HSCT is an interesting topic. Clinical and radiological features are not specific and not described in detail in literature.

In this paper the median time from the transplantation to the development of restrictive pulmonary disease was 44.5 months (more than 3 years). According to the last ATS statement the median time of onset for IPS is 19 days (range, 4-106 d), with a maximum of 120 days. Therefore, it is not correct to refer to this condition as IPS.

According to the ATS statement both early presentation of BO and BOOP may represent a manifestation of late IPS and in literature a late manifestation of IPS is presented as a form of LONIPC's. In my opinion, both situations may represent an abashing condition. Hence, I suggest to carefully review the use of different terms and definitions.

The authors are considering very late conditions, with the clinical characteristic of restrictive syndrome, therefore the term used "Late onset severe restrictive lung defect" may represent a good compromise. However, the authors in the second review of the paper amended the term IPS with LONIPC's, but not in all the paper. For example in the following sentences the term IPS is still present:

- pg 8, line 31: 33.5 months after the diagnosis of IPS
- pg9, line 31: after the diagnosis of late onset IPS
- pg 10, lines 15-19: exacerbation of late onset IPS

Figure 2: After diagnosis of IPS

I might have missed some citations so I invite the authors to review carefully their paper.
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

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