Reviewer’s report
Title: MDA-5 Associated Rapidly Progressive Interstitial Lung Disease with Recurrent Pneumothoraces: A Case Report

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Reviewer: Michael Mohning

Reviewer's report:
The authors present an interesting case of rapidly progressive ILD in the setting of anti-MDA5 dermatomyositis. The notable features of this case include the rapidity with which the patient progressed to respiratory failure, a good description of the initial presentation, and the fact that the case occurred in a caucasian patient whereas most case series are in Asian populations. The novelty of the pneumothoraces that the patient suffered from is not entirely clear, as the patient was intubated at this time and as such, barotrauma in the setting of stiff and fibrotic lungs would be the likely etiology of a pneumothorax, rather than the pneumothorax being caused by the ILD itself. The discussion on ECMO in this case appears to have been added to help with novelty, however ECMO as a salvage therapy in patients with advanced lung disease as a bridge to transplant is frequently done at many transplant centers. Lastly, there are a number of grammatical errors and sentence structure issues that limit the readability of this manuscript.

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?
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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.
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