Reviewer’s report

Title: Possible value of antifibrotic drugs in patients with progressive fibrosing non-IPF interstitial lung diseases

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Reviewer: Manuela Funke-Chambour

Reviewer's report:

The authors address a highly relevant clinical question with a retrospective analysis and description of a case series of lung fibrosis patients (other than IPF) treated with antifibrotics. As clinical trial results are pending, publication of retrospective case series description is of highest interest for clinical readers.

As mentioned in the study's limitation, the nature of the small sample size and retrospective nature limits the possibility to draw valid conclusions. It is also difficult to access effects of antifibrotic treatment with concomitant immunosuppression.

Nevertheless, the notion of tolerability of antifibrotic drugs in other fibrotic diseases is of value. Also, the use of new assessment tools (TORVAN index and lung density histogram) add value to this interesting case series.

The benefit of figure 4 for this case series is unclear to me. Does this represent the 1-year survival for the 11 patients against a cohort of IPF of which size? I would omit this figure or at least add information into the figure legend.

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.

Unable to assess

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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