Reviewer's report

Title: Laparoscopically excised retroperitoneal presacral Schwannoma: atypical pre and postoperative manifestations – case report

Version: 0 Date: 19 Jul 2019

Reviewer: Giuseppe Borzellino

Reviewer's report:

This is a case report on a schwannoma in a patient with previous thyroid neoplasm that considers the hypothesis of a possible syndrome. Since this is a case report and the finding of an association between the schwannoma and the thyroid neoplasm was not found, the information should be therefore deleted in the title and in the abstract: the case presented focused on isolated schwannoma. This is the point the Authors should discuss: is isolated schwannoma more or less frequent than schwannoma associated with other disorder in well known syndrome? That would make the case report of interest for the publication. Of course, association of schwannoma in clinical syndrome should be evocated and reported in the discussion.

The well known advantages of laparoscopy for such a tumor reported by the Authors are not documented, only one reference on a previous case does not allow to conclude in a superiority of laparoscopy over an open approach. Have the Authors previous experience in schwannoma surgery? Are there some publications that allow to consider the laparoscopic approach as the reference based on some confident data? Here the Authors report a sequence, that could be of concern: a long operative timing of 260 minutes, a really short post-operative stay of 24 hours and a long course of post-operative complications. Has the laparoscopic approach really been an advantage for the patient? Would an open approach has avoided such complications?

The Authors should provide more details and information about the intervention and about technical strategy.

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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