Reviewer's report

Title: Ruptured Desmoid Tumor Imitating Acute Appendicitis – A Rare Reason for an Emergency Surgery

Version: 1 Date: 21 Oct 2019

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer's report:

REVISION ASSESSMENT FROM THE ACADEMIC PEER REVIEWER:

Has the author addressed your concerns sufficiently for you to now recommend the work as a technically sound contribution? No

Reviewer comments: I have appreciated the effort of the authors to improve the manuscript but I still see major points that need to be addressed:

1) The treatment of desmoid tumors is reported in the discussion but, in my opinion, what the authors report is not completely in line with current recommendations and practice.

2) There are a number of sentences that are not clear and even if the authors had been supported by a professional translator the manuscript still needs language revision.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:

I report below some examples:

Page 3 Line 12-13: … and have dual behaviour. Please explain what the authors mean by dual behavior (indolent or aggressive course?)

Page 3 Line 20-21: Consider cancelling "Despite the progress in medicine" (this is a very generic expression)

Page 3 Lines 23 to 25: "because of their low incidence……." this is a confusing sentence. At least I would cancel the word extensive and I do not think the word respectively is correct here

Page 3 Line 25-28 "even more… "authors added this sentence but, in my opinion, it does not fit well here

Page 3 Line 51 "before two days" I think should be "two days before"

Page 3 Line 58: "were in referent limit". Is this correct? probably better within normal ranges

Page 4 Line 37 …."in negative margins……" i.e. resection margins with no evidence of tumor: this is established by the pathologist so should go in the next paragraph
Page 4 line 55: I am not aware that laboratory tests are useful for a desmoid tumor follow up

Page 5 line 23. The diagnosis usually is delayed…. I think the authors here refer to intraabdominal desmoid, please specify

Page 5 line 23: I think that "a case" should be "any case", please check

Page 6 line 13 to 27: Very confusing sentence. When the authors write about differential diagnosis they should clarify better. In the clinical differential diagnosis of bowel masses other more frequent tumors should be taken into account (i.e. G.I. carcinoma, lymphoma,…). If this means histological differential diagnosis, they should better specify this.

Page 7 line 5: I think asymptomatic here should be symptomatic, otherwise it is in contradiction with the previous paragraph

Page 7 line 12-14: the authors suggest the use of radiotherapy in case of R1 or R2 resection. I think the use of radiotherapy should be considered taking into account the presence of symptoms and the risk of acute and late toxic effect and only after medical treatment has been considered

Line 24: The authors use the term high risk without explaining what this means (symptomatic patients? when the tumor mass invades or is at risk to invade organs?)

Discussion: Authors should clarify if they are discussing treatment options for desmoid in general or for abdominal desmoid

In my opinion tamoxifen is no longer the first line medical therapy. MTX and vinorelbine/vinblastine are increasingly used

Please note that a very recent paper has been published in Lancet Oncology that may be of interest for the discussion: Toulmonde M et al, Lancet Oncol. 2019 Sep;20(9):1263-1272.

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.

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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