Reviewer's report

Title: Endoscopic combined intrarenal surgery in the prone-split leg position for successful single session removal of an encrusted ureteral stent: a case report

Version: 1 Date: 07 Feb 2020

Reviewer: Daniele Castellani

Reviewer's report:

Thank you very much for asking me to review this case report. The authors report their successful experience in treating encrusted grade IV stent with combined intrarenal surgery. I have minor comments.

1) Abstract

a. The case presentation should be modified. Data on the presenting case report are lacking. The authors should briefly describe the case (one sentence) and the surgical approach they used to remove the stent (two sentences). The conclusion needs only one sentence with the take-home message of the present case report.

2) Main Text


b. Line 47: shock wave lithotomy: please modify in shock wave lithotripsy.

c. Case description. It would be nice having CT scan images that could better depict stent calcification. Furthermore, Hounsfield Unit of both calcifications needs to be presented because it demonstrates how hard were the calcifications and predicts stone fragmentation after ESWL. If it is available, a short video clip of surgery will be more useful for readership than intraoperative figures in understanding the surgical approach. The clip can be submitted as Supplementary material.

d. Why was ESWL not attempted as first-line treatment? Please explain
Please confirm that you have included your review in the ‘Comments to Author’ box?  
As a minimum standard, please include a few sentences that outline what you think are the authors’ hypothesis/objectives, their main results, and the conclusions drawn. Your report should constructively instruct authors on how they can strengthen their paper to the point where it may be acceptable for publication, or provide detailed reasons as to why the manuscript does not fulfill our criteria for consideration. Please supply appropriate evidence using examples from the manuscript to substantiate your comments. Please break your comments into two bulleted or numbered sections: major and minor comments.

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- Are the statistical test(s) used in this study appropriate and well described?
- Is the exact sample size (n) reported for each experimental group/condition (as a number, not a range)?
- Are the description of any error bars and probability values appropriate?
- Are all error bars defined in the corresponding figure legends?
- Has a sample size calculation been included, or a description and rationale about how sample sizes were chosen?

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