Reviewer’s report

Title: Hibernoma: a rare case of adipocytic tumor in head and neck.

Version: 0 Date: 02 Apr 2017

Reviewer: Mainak Dutta

Reviewer’s report:

This article is a single case report that describes the clinical, imaging and histologic details of hibernoma, the seldom-encountered benign neoplasm in the head-neck region. The manuscript emphasizes on the rarity of the neoplasm and discusses some points of concerns associated with it. However, there are multiple areas where the authors need to re-assess the context and clarify accordingly.

1. The description of the patient (the Case Report section) promises nothing new, and adds no important clinical aspect to the existing body of literature. The concern for probable malignancy that was actually the "unsual" part of the clinical presentation (as mentioned in the Discussion later; second paragraph) is completely missing. In fact, there is no sense of urgency in the case description that would indicate that the authors at any point of time actually suffered from any diagnostic dilemma, due to the possibility of some sinister differential diagnosis. Thus, the clinical description needs to be re-written.

2. The MR imaging needs to be more vivid and suggestive. One of the key features of the Discussion section is to highlight how a hibernoma would differ from lipoma in imaging. Considering the malignant potential of lipoma, and that the clinical presentation of this patient raised the concern for a malignant tumor, the MRI of the lesion should have been provided in more details. I would urge the authors to provide images that have tell-tale signs of hibernoma, which would differentiate it from a lipoma. Further, in the MR image provided, "septa > 2 mm" has not been clearly delineated.

3. The literature review in the Discussion section should have been more elaborate and descriptive, especially in the context of Table 1. What are the source materials for the data incorporated in this Table?

4. The Abstract is too brief, and therefore incomplete, and misses points important for the present clinical presentation. It must be re-written.

5. The references should follow the journal house/Vancouver style. Special emphasis should be given on punctuation and uniformity in style. The original language of publication should be mentioned in second brackets for ref. 5.

6. It should be a conscious effort to avoid mentioning the patient as "case".
7. State the full form first, before stating its abbreviation. The Abstract section should be noted for an example.

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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