Reviewer’s report

Title: Thyroid primary and metastatic malignant tumours of poor prognosis may mimic subacute thyroiditis - time to change the diagnostic criteria: case reports and a review of the literature

Version: 0 Date: 03 Jul 2019

Reviewer: Milan Jovanovic

Reviewer’s report:

The authors present case series of five cases of thyroid tumors that mimic subacute thyroiditis. This is always very interesting topic, because it can be challenging to differentiate subacute thyroiditis from the life threatening thyroid carcinoma. The manuscript contains interesting elements and is generally well written.

Background section is well written, with explanation of pathogenesis, diagnosis and treatment of subacute thyroiditis.

Presentations of case reports are too long, with some unnecessary descriptions.

In Discussion and Conclusion section, the first two paragraphs (almost whole page) are without any references. Also, discussion section has pointless rewritten parts of other case reports.

Conclusion is well written, with proposal of useful criteria for recognition of subacute thyroiditis.

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.

No

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.
I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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