Reviewer’s report

Title: Complete Agenesis of the Dorsal Pancreas Presenting with Diabetic Ketoacidosis – A Case Report and Literature Review

Version: 0 Date: 29 Jul 2019

Reviewer: Luca D'Onofrio

Reviewer's report:

The clinical case presented by Tian Yang and colleagues aimed to present an interesting case of diabetes diagnosis in a patient affected with agenesis of the dorsal pancreas. The clinical case is well presented and describe the clinical story of the patients. However, the manuscript needs some minor revisions.

MINOR REVISIONS

Case presentation
1) please, could you use the scientific name for the drugs shown in the clinical case instead of the commercial brand?
2) Have you thought about the possible cause for the rapid onset of diabetes and DKA in this patient? Could you provide in this section or in the discussion a possible explanation for the onset of DKA? There was a possible infection at the moment of diagnosis or in the previous weeks/months? Other factors as changing in lifestyle, psychic stress, etc.?
3) The abdominal pain was the main factor that leads to the diagnosis of DKA and diabetes and it remains also after DKA resolution. Could you provide more information about pain resolution? How did you manage it? Did you solve it? If yes, how did you solve it?

Discussion and conclusion
1) In the background, you stated that: "there are few studies on the involvement of diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA) in ADP. Here, we present the first case of a patient with ADP accompanied by abdominal pain and DKA." and then in the discussion you wrote: "there was no study reporting a correlation between ADP and DKA". Please, could you correct one of the sentences and provide references if "few studies on the involvement of diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA) in ADP" have been published until now?
2) In the conclusion, you stated that "we advise clinicians to consider a diagnosis of ADP for patients presenting with a glucose metabolism disorder accompanied by abdominal pain or other abdominal symptoms." Please, could you provide which are the "other abdominal symptoms" that you are talking about?
3) In order to better underline the role of abdominal pain in this clinical case, could you provide a brief differential diagnosis between the most common forms of diabetes at the age of your patient (type 1 diabetes, LADA and MODY)? I suggest to refer to the ADA guidelines chapter 2 "Classification and Diagnosis of Diabetes: Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes2019" and to this review: Nat Rev Endocrinol. 2017 Nov;13(11):674-686. doi: 10.1038/nrendo.2017.99 in order to focus
on the differential diagnosis.

In order to support your conclusion and give a useful tool to clinicians, could you provide a table that summarizes all the clinical presentation of ADP published so far? The table should highlight the main signs and symptoms and biochemical findings linked to ADP diagnosis reported in your case and in the previous publications in order to give a complete frame to clinicians to suspect an ADP case in clinical practice.

SUGGESTION
1) page 4 line 34 and 36 - could you provide in brackets the values of fasting glucose also in mg/dL and switch the values of HbA1c, putting in the test the value expressed as mmol/mol and in brackets the value expressed in %?
2) Could you provide a table with the patient's main anthropometric and serum characteristic at the time of diagnosis of DKA/diabetes?

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.

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:

Acceptable

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