Reviewer’s report

Title: Primary gastric actinomycosis: Report of a case diagnosed in a gastroscopic biopsy

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Reviewer: Sergio Morini

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PRIMARY GASTRIC ACTINOMYCOSIS: REPORT OF A CASE DIAGNOSED IN A GASTROSCOPIC BIOPSY

I appreciate the careful and complete review that the Authors have performed. The text is now correct and the clinical case is presented in a more clear and consequent manner.

In my opinion, the problem is what we intend for “primary gastric actinomycosis”. If we consider the pathogenesis, an over-infection concomitant with another principal organic disease to which attribute the symptoms cannot be completely excluded. In fact, a concomitant neoplastic disease seems to be excluded by repeated gastroscopies, but the presence of ulcerations and atrophic mucosa, both conditions that can facilitate over-infections, is confirmed. As the Authors correctly state, “an associated paralytic ileus due to acute pancreatitis may be an alternative explanation for the obstruction as suggested by elevated serum lipase and amylase levels”, so that the clinical manifestations can be consequent to acute pancreatitis with secondary gastric over-infection by actinomyces, facilitated by the mucosal damage.

However, if we consider the localization of the infection, the present could be considered a case of primary gastric actinomycosis. I suggest to briefly clarify this concept in the discussion. Anyway, in my opinion the most correct wording could be “Primary gastric localization of actinomycosis”.

Line 137: “of of” please correct.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests