Reviewer’s report

Title: Primary hepatic neuroendocrine carcinoma: report of two cases and literature review

Version: 0 Date: 27 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Steven Smith

Reviewer’s report:

The authors are to be congratulated for preparing an interesting report of two cases. Their presentation would be improved as follows:

1) While the quality of written English is rather good, I would recommend one additional read/revision in this regard. There are articles missing, and strange wording (such as the first sentence of discussion; the word "lump" used in description of imaging findings etc).

2) The histologic images need to be white background and contrast corrected.

3) The second case has two features that are somewhat troublesome with regards to believing a hepatic primary. Multifocality in this setting is generally construed as evidence of metastasis. Also, the presentation of jaundice is, in and of itself, a feature suggestive of cholangiocarcinoma, a neoplasm that, like hepatocellular carcinoma, may be associated with extensive neuroendocrine differentiation such as may not be detected by the biopsies described. Essentially, on what grounds, for both cases, do the authors 1) exclude hepatocellular and cholangiocarcinoma with high grade neuroendocrine differentiation, and 2) in the scenario of the second case presented, interpret the multifocality as primary? Have prior multifocal primary hepatic neuroendocrine carcinomas been described? Is there any suggestion of syndromal neoplasia, such as might explain multifocality in the context of this rare liver tumor? These considerations are essential to evaluation of such a case, where formal resection was not performed. Are there any data from autopsy?

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.

Yes

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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