Reviewer's report

Title: Glomus Tumor in Subcutaneous Layer of Forearm Mimicking Hemangioma: Value of Ultrasonography: a case presentation

Version: 4 Date: 29 June 2015

Reviewer: Melissa Hilmes

Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?: Unexpected or unusual presentations of a disease

Do you believe the case report is authentic?:

yes

Do you have any ethical concerns?:

not sure about IRB approval

Is the Abstract representative of the case presented?:

yes

Does the Introduction explain the relevance of the case to the medical literature?:

yes

Does the article report relevant patient information?: Yes

Does the article report relevant physical examination findings?: Yes

Does the article report important dates and times in this case?: Yes

Does the article report the diagnostic assessments?: Yes

Does the article report the types of intervention?: Yes

Does the article report a summary of the clinical course of all follow-up visits?: Yes

Is the interpretation (discussion and conclusion) well balanced and supported by the case presented?:

Not with "hemangioma" as the main differential diagnosis. I have grave concerns about the use of the word "hemangioma." Hemangiomas are pediatric tumors,
coming in two main varieties—infantile and congenital. Hemangiomas do not suddenly appear in a 60 year old man. Page 5 of the discussion, lines 101-106 are completely misusing the term "hemangioma" and are confused with vascular malformation. For instance, venous malformations have phleboliths, not hemangiomas. I refer the authors to the classification scheme first proposed by Mulliken and Glowacki in 1982 and many follow up papers on this topic that use the terms vascular tumor, such as hemangioma, and vascular malformation properly. These references would be better than a hand textbook from 1996 (reference 8). Even still, vascular malformations are present since birth and tend to grow proportionately with the patient. So, vascular malformation still not a great differential diagnosis.

Does the case represent a useful contribution to the medical literature?:
with unusual location of a glomus tumor, yes.

Was written informed consent to publish this case obtained?: No

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?:
yes

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

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests