Reviewer's report

Title: Non-invasive treatment for severe complex pressure ulcers complicated with necrotizing fasciitis: A Case Report

Version: 7 Date: 29 May 2015

Reviewer: Ayse Tulin Mansur

Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?: Other

If other, please specify:

A respectively new treatment for a common condition (complicated pressure ulcer).

Do you believe the case report is authentic?:

This case report is not authentic, as deep and secondarily infected pressure ulcers can be seen.

Do you have any ethical concerns?:

I consider the reported case to be ethical.

Is the Abstract representative of the case presented?:

Yes, the abstract is representative of the presented case.

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?: No

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?: No
If any information is missing from the reporting, please detail it here.:

Yes, some of the important dates and times are missing.

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

Yes.

Does the case represent a useful contribution to the medical literature?:

It is an example of successful treatment of complicated pressure ulcers with negative pressure wound treatment with instillation. However, whether this case represents a true case of necrotizing fasciitis or not, is debatable.

Was written informed consent to publish this case obtained?: Yes

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?:

Yes.

Additional comments to authors?:

This report demonstrate a case of complicated decubitus ulcer treated with negative pressure wound therapy with instillation (NPWTi). However it is not clear whether there is a real necrotizing fasciitis or a chronic wound infection extending to the deep tissues. In the first paragraph of the discussion the authors stated that the ulcers were complicated with necrotizing fasciitis 2 years earlier. In the next paragraphs a severe soft tissue infection around the ulcers associated with elevated body temperature and laboratory findings supporting the infection was described. The time of progression is not properly mentioned, so it is unclear whether this is an acute progressive necrotizing fasciitis, or a slowly evolving bacterial soft tissue infection secondary to decubitus ulcer, not involving fascial planes. This issue should be clarified.

What are the results of bacterial cultures?

Which type of antibiotics and anti-inflammatory agent were used?

It would be good to write the computed tomography findings which indicated to the infection of hip in detail.

Patient’s perspective is interesting but not necessary for a case report.

There is a report on NPWTi treatment for pressure ulcers. This should be added to reference list.

There are several errors of orthography, syntax and phrases. The manuscript should be edited by a native English speaker.

**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.