Reviewer’s report

Title: A rare case of confirmed Ceylon krait (Bungarus ceylonicus) envenoming in Sri Lanka resulting in neuromuscular paralysis

Version: 0 Date: 14 Oct 2017

Reviewer: Q X Ng

Reviewer’s report:

General comments:

Although the authors assert that "this case report adds knowledge to the limited literature available on Ceylon krait envenomation; a rare but potentially fatal clinical entity", it is disappointing that little/no comment is made on the possible management strategies. There is a lack of primary "take-away" lessons from this case report.

Specific comments:

Cover page

- Please change "Registar" to "Registrar".

Abstract

- Please change "frequently habitats near" to "frequents habitats near".

- Please change "26 year old" to "26-year-old".

- Please change "anti venom" to "anti-venom".

- Please change "on clinical manifestations following envenoming is lacking" to "on the clinical manifestations following envenomation is lacking".

Introduction

- Please change "manly distributed it the" to "mainly distributed in the".

- Please change "frequently habitats near" to "frequents habitats near".

Case presentation
- Please change "Twenty six year old" to "A 26-year-old".

- Please change "presented to Toxicology Unit of Teaching Hospital" to "presented to the Toxicology Unit of Teaching Hospital".

- What was his respiratory rate?

- Was Partial Thromboplastin Time (PTT) prolonged?

- Did the patient undergo Tensilon (edrophonium) testing or a neostigmine trial to determine if anticholinesterase therapy may be beneficial?

- What was the supportive care plan for the patient? What was the fluid regimen (if any)?

Discussion

- It is important to mention that the decision to administer anti-venom may not be a straightforward one and must balance the potential benefit with the risk of adverse reactions.

- Please correct the typo in "She he had bilateral ptosis".

- Please change "Anti venom" to "anti-venom".

- "Therefore, the imported venom is unlikely to be effective for native Sri Lankan species." It is hard to say that the anti-venom administered did not contribute to the survival and full recovery of the patient. Particularly for snakes with presynaptic neurotoxins (and also for some species with only postsynaptic neurotoxins), it is important to commence anti-venom early, as soon as first signs (e.g. ptosis or ophthalmoplegia) become apparent (citation: Warrell DA. Treatment of snakebite in the Asia-Pacific Region: a personal view. Snakes of Medical Importance (Asia-Pacific Region). 1990:641-70.)

- Please share some relevant clinical insights or primary "take-away" lessons of this case report.

Conclusion

- Please change "Ceylon krait is an endemic elapid in Sri Lanka which frequently habitats" to "Ceylon krait is an endemic elapid in Sri Lanka that frequents habitats".

- Please change "following envenoming" to "following envenomation".

**Level of interest**

Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article of limited interest
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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