Reviewer’s report

Title: Celiac Disease associated with aplastic anemia in a 6 year old female: a case report and review of literature.

Version: 0 Date: 25 Oct 2017

Reviewer: Rahul Arora

Reviewer’s report:

1. Do you believe the case report is authentic?

Yes/No

2. Do you have any ethical concerns? Please consider if local Institutional Review Board approval or ethical approval was obtained (if appropriate) and if the patient (or their parent or guardian in the case of children under 18) gave written, informed consent to publish this case and any accompanying images. A statement to this effect should appear in the manuscript.

Comments:

3. Does the Introduction explain the relevance of the case to the medical literature?

Yes/No

4. Does the article report the following information? Where information is missing, please specify.

a. The relevant patient information, including:

- De-identified demographic information (age, gender, ethnicity)
- Main symptoms of the patient
- Medical, family and psychosocial history
- Relevant past interventions and their outcomes

b. The relevant physical examination findings
c. Important dates and times in this case (if appropriate, organized as a timeline via a figure or table); if specific dates could lead to patient identification, consider including time relevant to initial presentation, i.e. initial presentation at T = 0, follow up at T = 1 month.

d. Diagnostic assessments, including:

- Diagnostic methods

- Challenges (e.g., financial, language/cultural)

- Reasoning and prognostic characteristics (e.g., staging), where applicable

e. Types and mechanism of intervention

f. A summary of the clinical course of all follow-up visits

Comments:

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

Comments:

6. Is the anonymity of the patient protected? Please consider any identifying information in images such as facial features or nametags, whether the patient is named etc. If not, please detail below.

Yes/No

7. Is the Abstract representative of the case presented?

Comments:

8. Does the case represent a useful contribution to the medical literature?

Comments:

9. Additional comments for the author(s)?

I have major problems with the abstract itself which prevent me from reviewing the case report in totality. These errors need to be rectified before a review can be completed.
There is a suggestion that the autoimmune process underlying both coeliac disease and autoimmune haemolytic anaemia is identical. This needs to be elaborated further. If the authors' intention is to merely state that there exists a similarity in the etiopathogenesis of any autoimmune condition, this seems to point towards a well-known fact. If the intent is to postulate a new position, then it needs to be elaborated upon. The case details seem incomplete and hastily worded. Relevant clinical details have been omitted. The mere coexistence of aplastic anaemia and coeliac disease does not necessarily imply a causal association. The final sentence in the conclusion is without any scientific basis whatsoever.

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

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report
including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal