Reviewer’s report

Title: Extensive ARMC5 genetic variance in a case of primary bilateral macronodular adrenal hyperplasia started with exophthalmos: a case report

Version: 0 Date: 17 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Saket Kant

Reviewer's report:

1. Do you believe the case report is authentic?

Yes

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: No Ethical concerns.

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

Yes

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

a. The relevant patient information, including: Yes

   - 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: Yes
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. Yes

d. Diagnostic assessments, including: Yes
   - Diagnostic methods
   - Challenges (e.g., financial, language/cultural)
   - Reasoning and prognostic characteristics (e.g., staging), where applicable

e. Types and mechanism of intervention Yes

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

Comments:

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

Comments: Yes

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

7. Is the Abstract representative of the case presented?

Comments: Yes

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

Comments: Yes
9. Additional comments for the author(s)?

The case report is an interesting one. However the title and the contents say that exophthalmos was the presenting feature and a lot of emphasis has been placed on that which should be changed. Exophthalmos due to retrobulbar fat deposition is an important feature of hypercortisolism due to any cause and is not limited to primary bilateral macronodular adrenal hyperplasia. Further the clinical suspicion of hypercortisolism occurs when the additional clinical features like central adiposity, proximal myopathy, broad dehiscent purple stria, moon facies, buffalo hump etc show up so undue emphasis on exophthalmos is unwarranted.

The values for the diurnal rhythm of cortisol and ACTH should be provided. Spellings of Endocrinology, Cushingoid and Exophthalmos need to be corrected at various places.

Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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