Reviewer’s report

Title: DISSEMINATED HISTOPLASMOSIS IN AN IMMUNOCOMPETENT PATIENT - UTILITY OF SKIN SCRAPER CYTOLOGY IN DIAGNOSIS

Version: 0 Date: 24 Oct 2017

Reviewer: Mansoor Abdulla

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

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:
   - 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:

1. Please include history of weight loss, high risk behavior and details of fever.

2. The case should be narrated in an order - history, relevant examination findings and the necessary investigations.

3. Include the respiratory system examination findings.

4. Rewrite the sentence - He was negative for HIV/AIDS/ Hepatitis B.

5. Include the investigations in detail- Liver and renal functions, ESR, CRP values, findings in ultrasonography of abdomen.

6. Please mention the pre morbidities and addictions if any.

7. Include the treatment and follow-up.

8. Did the authors perform a culture from the sample.

9. What was the evidence to make a diagnosis of disseminated histoplasmosis?
10. Did the authors perform tests to rule out the possibility of an underlying primary immunodeficiency state before stating that the patient is immunocompetent?

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:

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

Comments: Yes

9. Additional comments for the author(s)?

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

An article of importance in its field

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

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

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