Reviewer’s report

Title: CROHN'S DISEASE IN A DEVELOPING AFRICAN MISSION HOSPITAL: A RARE CASE REPORT

Version: 0 Date: 26 Nov 2018

Reviewer: G Bengi

Reviewer's report:

1. Do you believe the case report is authentic?

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?

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)?

Dear author,
I have meticulously reviewed the study titled "Crohn's disease in a developing African mission hospital: a rare case report", and I make the following suggestions:

1. The Introduction must include further epidemiologic data on Crohn's disease to highlight that its rare occasion.

2. The follow-up procedures and treatment after diagnosis are not explicitly stated.

3. In the Discussion, it is stated that there is no standard golden method for diagnosing Crohn's disease, but it is indeed possible to make an ideal diagnosis based on the patient's clinical, laboratory, endoscopy and pathologic data.

4. The Discussion also fails to present efficient and up-to-date information on the treatment options for Crohn's disease.

5. It is mentioned that annual follow-up was suggested to patients, which contradicts daily practice.

6. Where the four attached figures are located in the text is not mentioned.

7. Despite all, it is a significant study as it draws clinicians' attention to a rare disease in Africa.

In the light of these considerations, it is deemed suitable for publication after a major revision is made.

**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:

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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?

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5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

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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.

none

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Were you mentored through this peer review?

No