Author’s response to reviews

Title: Burn wounds after electrical injury in a bathtub, a case report

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Author’s response to reviews:

COMMENTS FOR THE AUTHOR:

Reviewer #1: Accepted.
No comments.

Reviewer #2: Minor revisions
Comment: 9. Additional comments for the author(s)? An interesting case, I believe that you should add an additional comment in the conclusion section mentioning the role of family and school in the proper education to prevent such issues in the future. Make it even stronger if there is supporting data in the literature. A small change should be considered on line 84 where the word "signs" is not written properly. Thank you.

Response: However, prevention strategies should educate parents and schools of young children, regarding the safe use of portable household devices and electrical cords. Older school aged children should be educated themselves (17,18).

Reviewer #3: Accepted
No comments

Reviewer #4: Minor revisions
Comment: The case contributes more to parent awareness rather than the medical literature.

Response: No specific response, concerning the opinion of some other reviewers that this topic is very pertinent and seldom portrayed in the literature.

Reviewer #5: Major revisions

Comment:

Major concerns:

The authors state that "The day after admission the CK level slightly elevated to 1400 U/l. The urine was tested for myoglobinuria, but showed no signs of rhabdomyolysis."

I believe the authors should note the myoglobin half life is short and may not be present in late forms of rhabdomyolysis.

It is well established that myoglobin is normally bound to plasma globulins, and is maintained at a low serum level of 0 to 0.003mg/dL. Once circulating myoglobin levels have exceeded 0.5 to 1.5mg/dL it overwhelms its protein binding capacity, tubule endocytosis rate and metabolism rate, and is rapidly excreted in the urine.

Hence, myoglobulinuria is pathognomonic to rhabdomyolysis, but is not necessarily visible. Elevated serum myoglobin and myglobulinuria are reliable indicators for rhabdomyolysis, but present some limitations. Serum myoglobin levels rise and drop much faster than CK levels (in 1 to 6 hours), thus have a low negative predictive value and may not be used as a ruling out test. Therefore, I believe that not detecting myoglobulinuria the day after the accident does not allow to rule out mild rhabdomyolysis, which is the most likely cause of elevated CK level in this context.

Also, from my standpoint, readers would probably want to know what were the lactate dehydrogenase, transaminases, potassium and phosphorus blood levels.

Finally, I believe readers would be probably interested in knowing if the authors performed any therapeutic maneuvers to decrease the potential kidney injury related to an eventual rhabdomyolysis.

Response:

Major concerns:
Limitations on specificity and sensitivity of above mentioned tests, as well as serum myoglobin, should been taken notice of before using these tests to investigate muscle ischemia and cell breakdown(17).

Besides, in this diagnostic process, serum levels of lactate dehydrogenase, transaminases, potassium and phosphorus blood levels could indicate risks on renal morbidity and should be considering for testing(17). Although this patient showed no signs of myoglobinuria, we did not rule out mild rhabdomyolysis, which was most likely the cause of the elevated CK level in this case(18).

Minor concern 1:

On page 5, there was a typo in the following sentence:

"The urine was tested for 84 myoglobinuria, but showed no sig4,5ns of rhabdomyolysis."

Response:

Minor concern 1:
We corrected the mentioned typo.

Minor concern 2:

On page 7, I would suggest revising the following sentence:

"This casus learns us that the use of electronic devices in bathrooms should be avoided at all times when water is used."

Response:

Minor concern 2:

If household electronic devices are used in bathrooms, users must be aware of safety hazards and the device must comply with safety regulation standard. Nonetheless, electrical appliances or cords should never be plugged in near water and should never be in contact with a wet environments (19).

(Please note: new references have been added to the reference section)
Reviewer #6: Reject
Comment: Poor interpretation
Response: No specific comment on this comment.

Reviewer #7: Reject
Comments: No
Additional comment: Minor grammatical mistakes are encountered throughout the paper.
Response: We addressed all minor grammatical mistakes to the best of our knowledge.