Reviewer’s report

Title: Malfunctioning Sufentanil Intrathecal Pain Pump Case Report

Version: 1 Date: 16 Sep 2019

Reviewer: İlknur Şeker

Reviewer's report:

1. Do you believe the case report is authentic?
Yes

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)
        Yes
      - Main symptoms of the patient
        Yes
      - Medical, family and psychosocial history
        No
      - Relevant past interventions and their outcomes
        yes
   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.
      no
e. Types and mechanism of intervention

yes

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

yes

Comments:
What is the body mass index value of the patient? Non-obese or obese?

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

The author argues in the research section largely on the pharmacokinetics of sufentanil. However, it is not mentioned that other agents such as gabapentin administered to the patient may have an effect on withdrawal syndrome in the discussion section.

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: If the gaps in the presentation and discussion section of the case are completed completely, it may be useful for the literature.

9. Additional comments for the author(s)?
How long was sufentanil 0.307 microgram / day administered to the patient? I think there is no data of this time line. Was any opioid therapy administered to the patient at this time line 1/100th dose?

Did the patient give history of previous opioid use or withdrawal symptoms?

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:

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?

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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.

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Were you mentored through this peer review?

No