Author’s response to reviews

Title: A case report of Hoffmann’s syndrome necessitating forearm fasciotomy

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Version: 2 Date: 18 Jan 2020

Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor!

Thank you for giving us the chance to revise this manuscript.

Below are the Reviewers comments With the response from the Authors.

Yours sincerely

Reviewers comment: The case report should include social, environmental, family and employment history.

Authors response: A brief summary of the patients´ social, environmental, family and employment history is now included in the «Case presentation».

Reviewers comment:

What medications was the patient receiving prior to diagnosis?

Authors response: The patients´ medication is now included in the «Case presentation» section.
Reviewers comment:

Did the patient smoke, and/or consume alcohol?

Authors response: The information of the patients’ tobacco and alcohol consumption is now included in the «Case presentation» section.

Reviewers comment:

Give detailed physical and neurological examination on admission. What was the pulse, blood pressure and temperature, on admission?

Authors response: The available neurological examination as well as pulse, blood pressure and temperature from the patients’ journal is now included in the «Case presentation» section.

Reviewers comment:

Give antibiotics administered with duration, routes of administration, and dose.

Authors response: No antibiotics were administered to this patient during the entire hospital stay. This has been stated in the «case presentation» section describing the surgery.

Reviewers comment:

Give the doses of all medications that were given and their doses.

Authors response: All the medications and their respective doses are now filled in were appropriate.

Reviewers comment:

Give all results of laboratory findings (i.e. CBC, liver and renal functions), urinalysis, serology, microbiology etc)

Authors response: «A screening of blood tests including complete blood count, liver function tests, renal function tests and C-reactive protein were all within the reference range».

This paragraph is now included in the «Case presentation section».

Examination of the urine would possibly have revealed a brown colouration, indicating myoglobin in the urine, which also would have reacted positively to the dipstick blood test.
Unfortunately, no urine samples were collected nor analyzed. Microbiology tests were also abandoned in this case.

Reviewers comment :

How were cultures collected, transported and cultivated for aerobic, anaerobic bacteria, and fungi? Were blood cultures obtained? What did the gram stains of the cultures show?

Authors response :

Unfortunately no cultures were collected, neither from blood, urine or tissue. In our defence, the suspicion of an infectious disease did not occur to us as a likely.

Reviewers comment:

Were any radiographic and other scans done? Show a representative X ray and scans.

Authors response : Other than the CT-scan, which is provided in Figure 1, an ultrasound scan depicted open veins of lower limb. However, these images are dynamic and does not seem to improve the message of the manuscript.

Reviewers comment :

Describe the surgery. What was found in the fascination? Show pictures and pathological results.

Authors response:

The surgery is described more in detail. Unfortunately, we don`t have any photographs performed during the surgery. The pathological slides from the biopsies before the wound was closed are available, but have limited interest, since they only demonstrate non-specific post-ischemic injury.

Reviewers comment:

Give information about follow-up for at least 6 months.

Authors response:

The following section has been added to the «case presentation»

The patient was followed regularly by an endocrinologist after he was discharged from hospital. His thyroid function stabilized on a substitution regime of 10 µg of liothyronine a day, in
addition to 150 µg of levothyroxine four days a week and levothyroxine 125 µg the remaining three days of the week. Eight months after discharge he was seen by a neurologist. A full neurological examination only revealed normal findings, specifically demonstrating symmetrical and normal power, sensation and function of the hand and wrist.

Reviewers comment:

Discussion – add a paragraph at the beginning of the Discussion that summarizes the case and describes what is unique in this case compared to what is available in the literature. The Discussion is too short and superficial. Please briefly review the literature discussing diagnosis and treatment.

Authors response:

A new section has been added to the first part of the discussion, describing what is unique in this case compared to what is available in the literature. Two more references have been added.