Reviewer's report

Title: Positive melioidosis serology in a patient with adult onset Still's disease: A case report of a diagnostic dilemma

Version: 0 Date: 21 Aug 2018

Reviewer: Philippe Guilpain

Reviewer's report:

The authors report a new AOSD case, with an original temporal Relationship with positive Burkholderia positive serology. This case is really interesting and raises several questions concerning AOSD pathogenesis and infectious triggers.

1. The authors should also discuss the indication of antibiotics. Antbiotherapy appear essential in the context of this patient. How could the authors be sure that this treatment did not cure an infectious process related to Burkholderia ? What's about the incubation period with this pathogenic agent ? Wouldn't it be possible that antibody response against Burkholderia and AOSD development occur simutaneously ? In other terms, could the infectious agent remain "latent" for a few weeks, allowing before the appearence of antibody response, and then obviously become agressive inducing cytokine response "close"/similar to AOSD? The authors should also discuss these points as well as the recent litterature on Burkholderia and autoimmune diseases (including vasculitis).

2. Thus, discussion should be modified accordingly and each of the 3 hypothèses (advanced by the authors) should be considered again. In particular, the scenario of melioidosis with AOSD features should be more extensivly discussed. The conclusion remain however

3. Conversely, section on autoantibodies is not really relevant in AOSD, and should be shortened and modified. Abstract should be completely re-written.

4. In addition, classification criteria should be precised. Whether the patient had macrophage activation syndrome at any moment should be clearly indicated. What's about follow-up ? Only 6 months ?

Are the methods appropriaite and well described? 
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes
Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
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Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
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Not relevant to this manuscript

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Needs some language corrections before being published

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