

Universitätsklinikum Leipzig AöR, Department für Operative Medizin,  
Liebigstraße 18, 04103 Leipzig

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**Department für Operative Medizin**

Klinik und Poliklinik für Viszeral-,  
Transplantations-, Thorax-  
und Gefäßchirurgie  
Liebigstr. 20  
04103 Leipzig  
Prof. Dr. med. Sven Jonas  
Direktor  
Telefon: 0341 97 17200  
Telefax: 0341 97 17209  
E-Mail: [chi2@medizin.uni-leipzig.de](mailto:chi2@medizin.uni-leipzig.de)

*World Journal of Gastroenterology*

Georgi Atanasov  
Telefon: 0341 97 19829  
Telefax: 0341 97 17209  
E-Mail: [georgi.atanasov@medizin.uni-leipzig.de](mailto:georgi.atanasov@medizin.uni-leipzig.de)

Leipzig, 18.February.2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 1503-Review.doc)

**Title:** Alveolar echinococcosis- A spreading disease challenging clinicians: Case report and literature review

**Author:** Georgi Atanasov, Christoph Benckert, Armin Thelen, Dennis Tappe, Matthias Frosch, Dieter Teichmann, Thomas F E Barth, Christian Wittekind, Stefan Schubert, Sven Jonas

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 1503

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1. Format has been updated and language has been improved

2. Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer:

(1) The described infection is autochthonous. A thorough review of all patient files and history records has been made and no hints for being abroad in the last 20 years could be found. Additionally, a profound interview with the patient was made. Here we were not able to find any indicatives or facts that could pose any doubt according to the autochthonous character of the presented disease. The described patient is an old farmer. At his private institution he was constantly exposed to numerous wild and domestic animals, including dogs and foxes. As the reviewer proposed, this was explicitly stated and highlighted in the description of the patient.

(2) All histological findings were thoroughly analyzed regarding the presence of an adventitial layer. No such structure could be identified. This was highlighted in the paper, as recommended by the reviewer.

(3) The germinal layer was marked with thick arrows. Host tissue is not presented in figure 2. The laminated layer was marked with black arrows. It was also indicated that these are paraffin sections. "Laminated body" was replaced with "laminated layer".

(4) The authors are grateful for this very useful comment. The correct term is protoscoleces, indeed. As described in published scientific data protoscoleces are rarely (approximately 5-10% of all cases; although the reported frequency of this finding varies largely in the literature) observed in humans. Accordingly, this was highlighted in the text.

(5) "Furthermore, adhesions in the area of the diaphragm and cystic infiltration of the pancreatic head and corpus were considered for possible" was changed to "In addition, CT suggested the presence of adhesions in the area of the diaphragm and cystic infiltration of the pancreatic head and corpus" as recommended by reviewer.

(6) "Hence, additionally to extended left hemihepatectomy, we considered a concomitant resection of the pencreatic head and corpus for possible". "For possible" was removed.

(7) When being mentioned for the first time, terms such as MRI, CT, AFP, CA 19-9, CEA etc. were defined.

3. References and typesetting were corrected

4. PubMed citation numbers for the reference list, e.g. PMID and DOI, were provided

5. The format of the figures was updated

6. A new coauthor, who has performed a significant work in diagnosis of infection, was added in the list of Authors

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

Georgi Atanasov, MD

Department of Visceral, Transplantation, Thoracic and Vascular Surgery,

Universitaetsklinik Leipzig,

Leipzig 04103, Germany

**Telephone:** +49-341-9719829

**Fax:** +49-341-9717209

E-mail: [georgi.atanasov@medizin.uni-leipzig.de](mailto:georgi.atanasov@medizin.uni-leipzig.de)