**Name of journal:** World Journal of Clinical Cases  

**Manuscript NO:** 75283  

**Title:** Pleural involvement in cryptococcal infection.  

**Provenance and peer review:** Invited manuscript; externally peer reviewed  

**Peer-review model:** Single blind  

**Reviewer’s code:** 00070509  

**Position:** Editorial Board  

**Academic degree:** MD, PhD  

**Professional title:** Professor  

**Reviewer’s Country/Territory:** South Korea  

**Author’s Country/Territory:** Greece  

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-01-21  

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique  

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-01-23 23:13  

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-01-25 01:04  

**Review time:** 1 Day and 1 Hour  

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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I read with a great interest the letter to the editor titled "Pleural involvement in cryptococcal infection" by Georgakopoulou VE et colleagues. It is based on "Pleural effusion in an immunocompetent host with cryptococcal pneumonia: A case report." by Fang SY. I have some revisions to suggest. 1. The authors mentioned the significance of the ADA level to discriminate the etiology of the effusions. Most of the fungal effusion including cryptococcosis are lymphocytic effusions and tuberculous effusions are lymphocytic effusions, too. The authors have reviewed the literature, and they mentioned some studies reported elevated level of ADA was rarely found in nontuberculous lymphocytic pleural effusions. What is the most recent interpretation of the ADA level? ADA level check is still valuable? 2. Yoshino et al. described a case of cryptococcal pleuritis, diagnosed by the isolation of Cryptococcus neoformans in the culture of the pleural effusion, containing a high level of ADA in a patient with AIDS. Wee et al. also reported a case of a patient with acute myeloid leukaemia and a cryptococcal pleural effusion with increased pleural fluid ADA level[12]. --- Put the proper reference numbers to the sentences 'Yoshino et al. described~~~' and 'Wee et al. also~~~', respectively. 3. Correct the typographical errors; immunocompomised, celebrospinal fluid  4. Check the sentence in Abstract: 'Pleural involvement in cryptococcal infections includes pleural infection without or without pleural effusion.' 5. periodic acid-Schiff staining (PAS) stain --> periodic acid-Schiff (PAS) stain 6. unify the following words: Cr Ag vs. CrAg, India ink vs. Indian ink
PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Cases

Manuscript NO: 75283

Title: Pleural involvement in cryptococcal infection.

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer’s code: 05526453

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Assistant Professor, Doctor, Surgeon

Reviewer’s Country/Territory: Turkey

Author’s Country/Territory: Greece

Manuscript submission date: 2022-01-21

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-02-10 15:55

Reviewer performed review: 2022-02-10 16:07

Review time: 1 Hour

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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I have reviewed the letter to the editor titled “Pleural involvement in cryptococcal infection”. I would like to congratulate the authors for choosing a topic which gives insight about “Cryptococcal pleural infections”. Scientific quality, general integrity and language quality of the manuscript is accurate. Therefore I suggest that this article to be published.
Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Cases

Manuscript NO: 75283

Title: Pleural involvement in cryptococcal infection.

Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer’s code: 05348843

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer’s Country/Territory: China

Author’s Country/Territory: Greece

Manuscript submission date: 2022-01-21

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-02-10 11:45

Reviewer performed review: 2022-02-11 10:16

Review time: 22 Hours

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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I am honored to review this manuscript. MAJOR COMMENTS

1. Which species of Cryptococcus referred to? Cryptococcus neoformans or Cryptococcus gatti, although most clinical laboratories will not routinely identify cryptococcus to the species level.

2. "a case report by Wu et al. who described a case of a 29-year-old male" It is recommended to describe that was the location of pulmonary nodules near the pleura in this case.

3. "Pleural involvement of cryptococcal infection is rarely observed, and is more commonly seen in immunocompromised hosts compared to immunocompetent ones" It is recommended to describe that what diseases are included in the immunocompromised hosts? For example, newly diagnosed HIV infection; heterogeneous group of patients receiving high-dose corticosteroids, monoclonal immunocompromised hosts, a growing and antibodies such as alemtuzumab and infliximab, and/or other immunosuppressive agents; and otherwise "normal" patients.

4. Since then, approximately 50 cases of pleural effusion related to cryptococcal infection, in the context of both lung and disseminated disease, have been described. Further generalizations are recommended, such as how many cases related to disseminated Cryptococcal Disease (CNS, bones, fungemia), how many cases just in Cryptococcosis Pulmonary. Further generalization how many mild-to-moderate pulmonary cryptococcosis and severe pulmonary cryptococcosis were there? Generalizationed immunosuppressive risk factors, APACHE II, the location of pulmonary nodules.

5. The detection rates of Cryptococcus neoformans with Gomori-methenamine silver stain and periodic acid-Schiff staining (PAS) stain are 100%. It is recommended to describe that pathological identification with histoplasmosis.

6. It is recommended to describe that how long did the pleural effusion absorb after fluconazole 400mg qd or
400mg q12h?
Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Cases
Manuscript NO: 75283
Title: Pleural involvement in cryptococcal infection.
Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; externally peer reviewed
Peer-review model: Single blind
Reviewer’s code: 05852316
Position: Peer Reviewer
Academic degree: MD
Professional title: Doctor
Reviewer’s Country/Territory: China
Author’s Country/Territory: Greece
Manuscript submission date: 2022-01-21
Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique
Reviewer accepted review: 2022-02-10 08:17
Reviewer performed review: 2022-02-16 02:43
Review time: 5 Days and 18 Hours

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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1. The imaging findings of pulmonary cryptococcosis are also very important. It is suggested whether to explain it in your journal. 2 "Case report of Wu et al., who described a 29 year old male case". It is suggested to describe the image and diagnosis of pleura in this case. 3. In recent years, scholars have applied molecular biology technology to study the latest achievements of Cryptococcus neoformans, including GC content determination; DNA homology hybridization; Restriction fragment length polymorphism of mitochondrial DNA; Chromosome pulse electrophoresis karyotype analysis; The cloning of ura5 gene, TRP1 gene and rDNA is helpful to study the taxonomic status, phylogenetic origin and epidemiological investigation of Cryptococcus neoformans. The application of specific probes can be used for early diagnosis of cryptococcosis neoformans It is suggested to describe the value of molecular biology in identifying Cryptococcus.
RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Cases
Manuscript NO: 75283
Title: Pleural involvement in cryptococcal infection.
Provenance and peer review: Invited manuscript; externally peer reviewed
Peer-review model: Single blind
Reviewer’s code: 05852316
Position: Peer Reviewer
Academic degree: MD
Professional title: Doctor
Reviewer’s Country/Territory: China
Author’s Country/Territory: Greece
Manuscript submission date: 2022-01-21
Reviewer chosen by: Ji-Hong Liu
Reviewer accepted review: 2022-04-13 07:37
Reviewer performed review: 2022-04-14 01:37
Review time: 17 Hours

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Conflicts-of-Interest: Yes

[ ] Yes | [ ] No
SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS
Thank you for your Modification opinions. The importance of pleural involvement in cryptococcal infections is often overlooked. Your article provides an overview about Pleural involvement in cryptococcal infection.