

Specific Comments to Authors: Some comments are solicited for the suitability of this manuscript for publication. Specific concerns are as follows: Currently, we routinely use STR analysis for the screening and diagnosis of GVHD. STR analysis of CSF may be used as a tool to aid in the diagnosis of GVHD of the CNS. Based on the experience in hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, there is growing evidence that GVHD can affect the CNS. The presentation may be acute or chronic, and patients may present with altered mental status, focal neurological deficit, cognitive impairment, seizure, or even coma. MRI usually revealed varied features and is nondiagnostic. CNS-GVHD can be tested and confirmed by STR of the patient's CSF sample. The grammar was well organized, but there is a typo on line 95 "Physical examination examination revealed bradypsychia".

Answer the reviewer:

1. Diagnostic criteria for CNS-GVHD was proposed in the Consensus Conference on Clinical Practice in cGVHD. Mandatory criteria were: the occurrence of neurological symptoms with cGVHD affecting other organs and CNS involvement without other explanations (i.e., without any infectious, vascular, drug toxicity, or metabolic etiologies). Other facultative criteria were: ①consistent brain MRI abnormalities, ②CSF abnormalities (pleocytosis, elevated protein or IgG oligoclonal bands), ③pathological brain biopsy or postmortem examinations revealing GVHD lesions, and ④a response to immunosuppressive therapy. The diagnosis of chronic CNS-GVHD can be made when both the mandatory and 2 facultative criteria are met.

STR analysis is not included in this diagnostic criteria. STR analysis reflected the donor chimerism rate, and had no direct correlation with the diagnosis of GVHD. Our two cases were conducted bone marrow STR analysis, and the results showed complete chimerism. We also performed STR analysis of CSF cells, however, the results were not available due to the small number of CSF cells.

2. The mistake about "Physical examination examination revealed bradypsychia" on line 95 has been corrected.