

Peer-review report

This submission reported a rare case with cytomegalovirus colitis with segmental colonic hypoganglionosis. Such case is interesting. However, concerns existed:

1. The INTRODUCTION section is same as the words in Abstract.

Response) Thank you for your comments. Following your advice, the INTRODUCTION section is revised as follows;

Cytomegalovirus (CMV) colitis is a common manifestation of CMV tissue-invasive end-organ disease, usually seen in immunocompromised patients with risk factors such as human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection, solid organ transplant, inflammatory bowel disease, or malignancy (2-5). Recent studies have reported CMV colitis in immunocompetent patients, but there were risk factors such as old age, blood transfusion, and recent steroid use in most patients. Therefore, many clinicians usually do not consider the possibility of CMV colitis in immunocompetent patients. (6).

Hypoganglionosis is characterized by a decreased in the number of ganglion cells in the submucosa and myenteric plexuses of the colon. While hypoganglionosis is usually congenital and occurs at infancy or early childhood, acquired hypoganglionosis (adult-onset form) is extremely uncommon and cause intractable constipation or pseudo-obstruction.

Here, we presented a case of segmental colonic hypoganglionosis associated with CMV colitis in an immunocompetent patient.

2. As this patient had an intermittent constipation history. One cannot rule out the possibility of preexisted colonic hypoganglionosis. This should be included in the Discussion.

Response) We agree with your comments. We cannot rule out the aggravation of preexisting colonic hypoganglionosis by CMV colitis as she complained of intermittent constipation. However, she regarded as her symptoms as mild, which were controlled by intermittent taking laxatives such as bulking agents or osmotic laxatives. We included this comments in the revised manuscript as follows (page 8, 23th line- page9,8th line);

However, we need to consider the possibility of aggravation of preexisting colonic hypoganglionosis, as she had an intermittent constipation history.

3. Minor error: The 4th line of the CASE SUMMARY, “polymerase chain action” change to “polymerase chain reaction”.

Response) Corrected as “*polymerase chain reaction*” (page 3, 4th line of the CASE SUMMARY)