

**Pneumococcal infection transmission between family members with congenital asplenia: a case report**

**Point-to-point responses to reviewers' comments**

**Comment for the author:**

Reviewer #1: I have reviewed the manuscript "Pneumococcal infection transmission between family members with congenital asplenia: a case report" and found it acceptable to be published in the World journal of clinical cases. There are only few minor corrections required as follows

- Remove case report from the keywords
- In the laboratory results, give reference ranges of hematological parameters. Also a TLC of 6,400/micoliter is not considered as elevated. Its normal however necrophilia is present
- In para 2 of discussion, write full form of anti-HIV antibodies.

**Response:** We are sincerely grateful for your helpful comments. Please find responses to all the points you raised below.

**Response to comment 1; "Remove case report from the keywords."**

Thank you once again. As requested, we removed the "case report" from the keywords and changed as follows;

- Page 4, line 73-74

**"Key words:** *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, Pneumococcal infection, Asplenia, Hyposplenia, Isolated congenital asplenia, Septic shock"

**Response to comment 2; "In the laboratory results, give reference ranges of hematological parameters. Also a TLC of 6,400/micoliter is not considered as elevated. Its normal**

27 **however necrophilia is present”.**

28 Thank you for your advice. As requested, we added the Standard value of neutrophils and  
29 lymphocytes in Table 1 and Table 2 as follows.

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31 **Table 1 Laboratory data of Patient 1 upon admission**

Parameter	Recorded value	Standard value
White blood cell count	6400 / $\mu$ L	3590–9640 / $\mu$ L
Neutrophils	90.2%	41.2–74.7%
Lymphocytes	8.4%	21.2–51.0%
Hemoglobin	16.1 g/dL	13.2–17.2 g/dL
Hematocrit	47.3%	40.4%–51.1%
Platelets	$3.4 \times 10^4$ / $\mu$ L	$14.8$ – $33.9 \times 10^4$ / $\mu$ L
C-reactive protein	18.2 mg/dL	$\leq 0.30$ mg/dL
Total protein	5.5 g/dL	6.7–8.3 g/dL
Albumin	2.9 g/dL	3.9–4.9 g/dL
Aspartate aminotransferase	232 U/L	13–33 U/L
Alanine aminotransferase	154 U/L	6–30 U/L
Lactate dehydrogenase	700 U/L	119–229 U/L
Creatine phosphokinase	356 U/L	62–287 U/L
Blood nitrogen urea	35 mg/dL	8–22 mg/dL
Creatinine	4.72 mg/dL	0.60–1.10 mg/dL
Sodium	136 mEq/L	138–146 mEq/L
Potassium	4.4 mEq/L	3.6–4.9 mEq/L
Glucose	118 mg/dL	60–160 mg/dL

Hemoglobin A1c	6.7%	4.6–6.2%
Prothrombin time	24.8 s	9.4–12.5 s
Activated partial thromboplastin time	97.8 s	25.1–36.5 s
Fibrinogen	131 mg/dL	155–415 mg/dL
Fibrin/Fibrinogen degradation products	68.6 µg/mL	0–4.9µg/mL

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33 **Table 2 Laboratory data of Patient 2 upon admission**

Parameter	Recorded value	Standard value
White blood cell count	2260 /µL	3040–8540 /µL
Neutrophils	61.1%	38.3–71.1%
Lymphocytes	37.5%	21.3–50.2%
Hemoglobin	10.9 g/dL	10.8–14.9 g/dL
Hematocrit	32.8%	35.6%–45.4%
Platelets	15.6 × 10 <sup>4</sup> /µL	15.0–36.1 × 10 <sup>4</sup> /µL
C-reactive protein	0.34 mg/dL	≤0.30 mg/dL
Total protein	6.5 g/dL	6.7–8.3 g/dL
Albumin	3.9 g/dL	3.9–4.9 g/dL
Aspartate aminotransferase	23 U/L	13–33 U/L
Alanine aminotransferase	11 U/L	6–27 U/L
Lactate dehydrogenase	276 U/L	119–229 U/L
Creatine phosphokinase	200 U/L	45–163 U/L
Blood nitrogen urea	20 mg/dL	8–22 mg/dL

Creatinine	1.32 mg/dL	0.40–0.70 mg/dL
Sodium	144 mEq/L	138–146 mEq/L
Potassium	3.4 mEq/L	3.6–4.9 mEq/L
Glucose	191 mg/dL	60–160 mg/dL
Hemoglobin A1c	6.8%	4.6–6.2%
Prothrombin time	12.8 s	9.4–12.5 s
Activated partial thromboplastin time	22.1 s	25.1–36.5 s
Fibrinogen	131 mg/dL	155–415 mg/dL
Fibrin/Fibrinogen degradation products	24.6 µg/mL	0–4.9µg/mL

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Additionally, we changed our manuscript to mention a neutrophilia exist in the laboratory test of patient 1 as follows;

- Page 6, line 132-133

“Laboratory test results revealed a neutrophilia with normal white blood cell count (6,400 cells/µL, with 90.2% neutrophils), and a platelet count of 34,000 cells/µL.”

**Response to comment 3. “In para 2 of discussion, write full form of anti-HIV antibodies.”**

Thank you for pointing this out. As you recommended, we have changed the discussion as follows:

- Page 9, line 195

“disorders include thalassemia, chronic liver disease, human immunodeficiency virus”

49     Reviewer #2: This paper report a rase case, it had clinical value.

50     **Response:** Our deepest appreciation to you for your favorable review of our case report.

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