

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 55279

**Title:** Macrophage activation syndrome as a complication of dermatomyositis: A case report

**Reviewer's code:** 03307766

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD, MSc

**Professional title:** Assistant Professor, Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Kazakhstan

**Author's Country/Territory:** China

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-03-09

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-03-09 09:30

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-03-09 10:31

**Review time:** 1 Hour

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	RE-REVIEW	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> No	[Y] Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good				[ ] Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision		Peer-reviewer's expertise on the topic of the manuscript:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision		[Y] Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection		[ ] General
				[ ] No expertise
				Conflicts-of-Interest:

[ ] Yes

[Y] No

#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

There are very few reports of MAS associated with DM/JDM. Therefore, this is an interesting report, but some improvements and revisions are needed. Some epidemiological specifications about both DM and MAS should be provided in the introduction. The organization in subsections of the case presentation can be kept; but should be improved or, actually, changed. Therefore, I would recommend the authors to organize the case presentation in two sections: pre-MAS (chief complaints, initial diagnostic work-up) and MAS episode (including the therapy and follow-up) description, which will be consistent with Table 1. This way the authors can avoid confusion with the temporal expressions used in the case description. Table 1: I would suggest including also the plasmatic sodium and cholesterol. In particular, the plasmatic sodium (and hyponatremia) is another important parameter in systemic inflammatory syndromes. It's important to clarify the time elapsed from these two time points. This case confirms that, as well as in JDM, MAS in DM patients seems to arise often at the onset of the rheumatic diseases and even before a clear diagnosis, which makes its diagnosis quite challenging. The short-term changes of hemoglobin, platelet, fibrinogen, ESR and PCR are a very important aspect to be emphasized, in order to timely diagnose and act this life-threatening complication, as discussed by some authors (in order to discuss this point, refer to: Autoimmun Rev. 2014 Nov;13(11):1142-8. doi:

10.1016/j.autrev.2014.05.009. Epub 2014 May 29. Review). Indeed, the sentence “However, when MAS occurred in our patient, the above parameters were nearly normal (Table 1)” is not unusual in the MAS setting, but should appropriately valorized, according to the comments and reference above. Moreover, once the authors provide information about the natremia, also this point could be addressed in the discussion, considering the correlation between hyponatremia and plasma C-reactive protein values. Conclusion: it’s better to emphasize that, even though rare, MAS can complicate DM. The sentence “High serum ferritin levels may be useful for predicting the risk of macrophage activation syndrome in patients with dermatomyositis” should be removed, because it is not an aspect of novelty. Actually, the authors should stress the timing of MAS at the DM onset and the value of the short-term laboratory changes, as discussed above.

#### **INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

##### ***Google Search:***

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

##### ***BPG Search:***

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 55279

**Title:** Macrophage activation syndrome as a complication of dermatomyositis: A case report

**Reviewer's code:** 00070509

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Professor

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

**Author's Country/Territory:** China

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**Review time:** 6 Days and 1 Hour

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	RE-REVIEW	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> No	[Y] Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good				[ ] Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision		Peer-reviewer's expertise on the topic of the manuscript:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision		[ ] Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection		[Y] General
				[ ] No expertise
				Conflicts-of-Interest:

☐ Yes☐ No**SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

I think this case is a rare case of dermatomyositis complicated by macrophage activation syndrome (MAS). The patient had typical symptoms and signs of dermatomyositis and MAS. This case is reportable.

**INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT*****Google Search:***☐ The same title☐ Duplicate publication☐ Plagiarism☐ No***BPG Search:***☐ The same title☐ Duplicate publication☐ Plagiarism☐ No