

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Cases

Manuscript NO: 57153

Title: Optical coherence tomography angiography characteristics in Waldenström macroglobulinemia retinopathy: A case report

Reviewer's code: 00505284

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Director, Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: United States

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2020-05-28

Reviewer chosen by: Jin-Lei Wang

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-09-02 16:37

Reviewer performed review: 2020-09-08 15:47

Review time: 5 Days and 23 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

REVIEWER's Comments: Title: OK ABSTRACT: Background: Rewrite; give a more comprehensive description of WM and the ocular presentation in the first sentence. Second sentence summarized to the conclusion. Case summary: Provide the reader with a snapshot of the clinical findings of the initial bilateral ocular presentation, e.g., significant facts such as BCVA, IOP, OCT, OCTA, etc. Clinical lab results that supported WM, e.g., lymphadenopathy, splenomegaly, elevated IgM, bone marrow, etc. Need treatment details and summary of Tx response at 1 and 6 months (time line; CARE Checklist). Provide objective results consistent with "continued improvement", e.g. BCVA and percent reduction in OCT sub-retinal fluid volume, reduction in retinal and choroidal petaloid cystic changes, OCTA findings, etc. Conclusion: I don't think you can say that the treatment is "effective" (beneficial, promising) at just 6 months out in view of the current literature. Minor: Acronyms should be defined CORE TIP: Not sure that the current text captures the central point- OCT/OCTA can be used effectively to follow CRVO in MW patients who cannot undergo FFA? BACKGROUND: Page 5... lines 1-3; Ratanam et al., 2015 does not appear to be the right general reference for WM. Lines 21-23. See reference 7, Pilon et al., Optom Vis Sci 2005;82:573-8. Lines 25. What is SMD? Lines 25-29. Should summarized the results of the 4 cases (others if discovered in the literature) of WM-associated retinopathy treated with intravitreal anti-VEGF (Besirli et al. 2013; Ratam et al., 2015; Xu LT et al. 2015; Kapoor et al., 2015). CASE PRESENTATION: Page 6... The case would be easier to follow if the authors make an effort to incorporate the time line into the presentation and address the presenting abnormalities as depicted in the figures systematically. Line 6-7; should refer the reader to Figure 3 with an objective assessment of the OCT finding plus a summary. Then move to the OCTA findings. Who performed the routine systemic workup (IM?). Figure 2

presents the bone biopsy and the results section mentions immunophenotyping but a cytopathology assessment is given in the legend. (No mention of the stain used). This reviewer suggests the authors provide the incremental improvements (with reference to the appropriate figure) observed at 1 month and 6 months after initiating plasmapheresis, chemotherapy (provide the name of the agent) and ranibizumab injection. An objective therapeutic measurement of the improvements in choroidal and retinal pathologies concomitant with the better BCVA would help the reader accept that significant improvements in the retinopathy occurred post treatment. **DISCUSSION:** Page 7... Line 11. See Pilon et al. Reference 7... retinal atrophy plays a role in poor prognosis. [In my opinion one would do well to reattach the retina as soon as possible to preserve vision.] **PAGE 8...** Line 26. Suggest the authors mention results with tyrosine kinase inhibitor (Leskov et al., 2018.) **CONCLUSION:** If the author want to make the statement the anti-VEGF treatment is “effective”, they should mention the others cases treated with the other commercial anti-VEGF preparations used to treat the retinopathy associated with WM. **FIGURES:** Fig. 3. The A-F images appeared to be rearranged from the legend narrative in my downloaded file. That is, Fig. 3 B-F correlated with RE and Fig. 3 A-C correlated with the LE.

RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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Reviewer chosen by: Xi-Fang Chen

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Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS



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The author's revisions have resulted in a much improved manuscript.