



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 61416

**Title:** Avascular Necrosis of the First Metatarsal Head in a Young Female Adult

**Reviewer's code:** 03518273

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Assistant Professor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-04-27

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-05-04 04:19

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-05-04 04:28

**Review time:** 1 Hour

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<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
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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

Although this topic has been report in many literatures, I support to publish this case report which could be benefit for the reader regarding to more options especially conservative treatment.



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 61416

**Title:** Avascular Necrosis of the First Metatarsal Head in a Young Female Adult

**Reviewer's code:** 05439875

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Assistant Professor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-04-27

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-05-04 06:43

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-05-04 08:19

**Review time:** 1 Hour

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<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
<b>Language quality</b>	<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
<b>Conclusion</b>	<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
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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## **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

Review Report Dear authors, you performed a case report about an Avascular Necrosis (AVN) of the First Metatarsal Head in a Young Female Adult. The main objective was to describe an unusual form of AVN, including diagnostic and therapeutic aspects. However, although of interest for the reader, the paper has several criticisms that must be addressed. In particular, clinical condition needs more details, using questionnaire or tools for describing better the case. Treatment choice should be better described and the discussion, should be better argued about similarities and differences with what reported in literature. English must be slightly reviewed by a native English speaker.

Specific comments

1. "On physical examination, mild swelling of the first MTPJ was revealed, with failed interphalangeal joint (IPJ) flexion, but intact flexor hallucis longus (FHL) tendon. Clinical appearance of the feet, sensation and local perfusion of the toes were normal." It could be of interest for the reader have information about clinical aspect of your patient. It could be useful to use appropriate questionnaire for the assessment of pain, function, impairment of Activity of Daily Living (ADL) and quality of life.
2. Didn't you perform an Xray evaluation as first line approach, before MRI?
3. Did you research in medical history any risk factor, such as joint or bone trauma, fat metabolism diseases, sickle cell anemia and Gaucher's disease, or any other causes of reduced blood flow? Please specify better this aspect
4. In the "treatment" section you described the progression of the disease, providing few information about the treatment proposed. In particular, how the patient carried out the non-weight bearing and which kind of analgesics assumed?
5. Why did you not prescribed vitamin d, calcium or drugs affecting bone?
6. Did you suggest a rehabilitation protocol for improving function?
7. "autoimmune markers suggestive of SLE." How can you affirm this sentence if you did not perform laboratory assessment?
8. "various serum results, such as elevated C-reactive protein level an erythrocyte sedimentation rate". Although it is unlikely that



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your patient suffers from AR, this sentence is not appropriate due to the absence of biochemical assessment 9. “however, are more commonly used in the management of the typical sites of AVN, rather than the first MTT head”. It could be of interest providing a brief description of similarity and differences between AVN of Metatarsal Head and others skeletal sites, in particular femoral head. Please, read and cite “Paoletta M, Moretti A, Liguori S, Bertone M, Toro G, Iolascon G. Transient osteoporosis of the hip and subclinical hypothyroidism: an unusual dangerous duet? Case report and pathogenetic hypothesis. BMC Musculoskelet Disord. 2020 Aug 13;21(1):543. doi: 10.1186/s12891-020-03574-x. PMID: 32791961; PMCID: PMC7427076.” 10. In the discussion, beyond the differential diagnose with other conditions, you could argue better therapeutic option available for this condition and compare it with your therapeutic protocol, explaining strength and limit.