

Point-by-point response to reviewers' comments

Submission ID: 02445870

Titled: **Varicella-zoster virus-associated meningitis, encephalitis, and myelitis with sporadic skin blisters: A case report**

Reviewer reports:

Reviewer #1: The report "Varicella-zoster virus-associated meningitis, encephalitis, and myelitis with sporadic skin blisters: A case report" is interesting and somehow original (HZ sine herpete inducing widespread neural infection]). It is well illustrated (although figures 3 and 4 could be joined and figure 6 is not necessary);

Response: Thank you for your comment. We have combined Figures 3 and 4. In addition, we have deleted Figure 6. Accordingly, we have arranged the figure numbers in the manuscript.

Table 1 could be deleted and relevant findings briefly described in the text.

Response: Thank you for your suggestion. We have deleted Table 1 and made the following revision in the manuscript: Mild increase in blood glucose levels (174 mg/dL) and HbA1c level (6.8%) suggestive of diabetes were noted. No increase in inflammatory response was observed (White blood cell count 5800 cells/ μ L, C-reactive protein 0.15 mg/L). Accordingly, we have arranged the Table number in the manuscript.

1. The authors should clarify whether the patient had chronic diabetes (P5,p5,L1) (mild?) or the disease was diagnosed at the time of HZ (P6,p6,L3).

Response: Thank you for your comment. We have added the following sentence in the manuscript: He did not have regular health checkups and there was no significant medical history.

2. At the treatment lines the administration of acyclovir must be explained (oral, IV, IM?).

Response: Thank you for your suggestion. We have added the following sentence in the manuscript: Treatment was initiated with 500 mg acyclovir intravenously three times a day

3. Bilateral blisters is an uncommon dermic manifestation of VZV in old patients.

Response: Thank you for your comment. We have added the following sentence in the manuscript: Bilateral blisters are an uncommon dermic manifestation of VZV in geriatrics, but his disseminated herpes zoster caused bilateral sporadic skin eruptions.

4. This report could be shortened if necessary.

Response: Thank you for your advice. We have shortened our report by removing some figures and test results.

5. “myelitis-associated symptoms” (P3,p2,L13) could be better explained by “urinary retention and gait disturbances persisted...”

Response: Thank you for your suggestion. We have made the following revision: the urinary retention and gait disturbances persisted as sequelae.