

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 75283

**Title:** Pleural involvement in cryptococcal infection.

**Provenance and peer review:** Invited manuscript; externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 00070509

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Professor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-01-21

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-01-23 23:13

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-01-25 01:04

**Review time:** 1 Day and 1 Hour

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input checked="" 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 Grade E: Do not publish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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous

statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I read with a great interest the letter to the editor titled "Pleural involvement in cryptococcal infection" by Georgakopoulou VE et colleagues. It is based on "Pleural effusion in an immunocompetent host with cryptococcal pneumonia: A case report." by Fang SY. I have some revisions to suggest. 1. The authors mentioned the significance of the ADA level to discriminate the etiology of the effusions. Most of the fungal effusion including cryptococcosis are lymphocytic effusions and tuberculous effusions are lymphocytic effusions, too. The authors have reviewed the literature, and they mentioned some studies reported elevated level of ADA was rarely found in nontuberculous lymphocytic pleural effusions. What is the most recent interpretation of the ADA level? ADA level check is still valuable? 2. Yoshino et al. described a case of cryptococcal pleuritis, diagnosed by the isolation of *Cryptococcus neoformans* in the culture of the pleural effusion, containing a high level of ADA in a patient with AIDS. Wee et al. also reported a case of a patient with acute myeloid leukaemia and a cryptococcal pleural effusion with increased pleural fluid ADA level[12]. ---> Put the proper reference numbers to the sentences 'Yoshino et al. described~~~' and 'Wee et al. also~~~', respectively. 3. Correct the typographical errors; immonocompomised, celebrosplinal fluid 4. Check the sentence in Abstract: 'Pleural involvement in cryptococcal infections includes pleural infection without or without pleural effusion.' 5. periodic acid-Schiff staining (PAS) stain ---> periodic acid-Schiff (PAS) stain 6. unify the following words: Cr Ag vs. CrAg, India ink vs. Indian ink

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**Reviewer's code:** 05526453

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Assistant Professor, Doctor, Surgeon

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-01-21

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-02-10 15:55

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-02-10 16:07

**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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer</b>	Peer-Review: <input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous



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statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

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

I have reviewed the letter to the editor titled "Pleural involvement in cryptococcal infection". I would like to congratulate the authors for choosing a topic which gives insight about "Cryptococcal pleural infections". Scientific quality, general integrity and language quality of the manuscript is accurate. Therefore I suggest that this article to be published.

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**Reviewer's code:** 05348843

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

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

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

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**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-02-11 10:16

**Review time:** 22 Hours

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 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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous

statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I am honored to review this manuscript. MAJOR COMMENTS 1. Which species of *Cryptococcus* referred to? *Cryptococcus neoformans* or *Cryptococcus gatti*, although most clinical laboratories will not routinely identify *cryptococcus* to the species level. 2. "a case report by Wu et al. who described a case of a 29-year-old male" It is recommended to describe that was the location of pulmonary nodules near the pleura in this case. 3. "Pleural involvement of cryptococcal infection is rarely observed, and is more commonly seen in immunocompromised hosts compared to immunocompetent ones" It is recommended to describe that what diseases are included in the immunocompromised hosts? For example, newly diagnosed HIV infection; heterogeneous group of patients receiving high-dose corticosteroids, monoclonal immunocompromised hosts, a growing and antibodies such as alemtuzumab and infliximab, and/or other immunosuppressive agents; and otherwise "normal" patients. 4. Since then, approximately 50 cases of pleural effusion related to cryptococcal infection, in the context of both lung and disseminated disease, have been described. Further generalizations are recommended, such as how many cases related to disseminated Cryptococcal Disease (CNS, bones, fungemia), how many cases just in Cryptococcosis Pulmonary. Further generalization how many mild-to-moderate pulmonary cryptococcosis and severe pulmonary cryptococcosis were there? Generalized immunosuppressive risk factors, APACHE II, the location of pulmonary nodules. 5. The detection rates of *Cryptococcus neoformans* with Gomori-methenamine silver stain and periodic acid-Schiff staining (PAS) stain are 100%. It is recommended to describe that pathological identification with histoplasmosis. 6. It is recommended to describe that how long did the pleural effusion absorb after fluconazole 400mg qd or



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400mg q12h?

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**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05852316

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-01-21

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-02-10 08:17

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-02-16 02:43

**Review time:** 5 Days and 18 Hours

<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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous



statements

Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

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

1.The imaging findings of pulmonary cryptococcosis are also very important. It is suggested whether to explain it in your journal. 2 "Case report of Wu et al., who described a 29 year old male case". It is suggested to describe the image and diagnosis of pleura in this case. 3.In recent years, scholars have applied molecular biology technology to study the latest achievements of *Cryptococcus neoformans*, including GC content determination; DNA homology hybridization; Restriction fragment length polymorphism of mitochondrial DNA; Chromosome pulse electrophoresis karyotype analysis; The cloning of *ura5* gene, *TRP1* gene and rDNA is helpful to study the taxonomic status, phylogenetic origin and epidemiological investigation of *Cryptococcus neoformans*. The application of specific probes can be used for early diagnosis of cryptococcosis *neoformans*. It is suggested to describe the value of molecular biology in identifying *Cryptococcus*.

## RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-01-21

**Reviewer chosen by:** Ji-Hong Liu

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-04-13 07:37

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-04-14 01:37

**Review time:** 17 Hours

<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>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

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

Thank you for your Modification opinions. The importance of pleural involvement in cryptococcal infections is often overlooked. Your article provides an overview about Pleural involvement in cryptococcal infection.