



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Clinical Cases*

Manuscript NO: 77501

Title: Resolution of herpes zoster-induced small bowel pseudo-obstruction by epidural nerve block: A case report

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 06109990

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MBChB, N/A

Professional title: Academic Research, Full Professor, Senior Editor, Surgeon

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Iraq

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-05-03

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-05-03 11:59

Reviewer performed review: 2022-05-04 08:34

Review time: 20 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 Grade E: Do not publish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 type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No



Peer-reviewer statements Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Dear Authors, Thank you for conducting a very interesting case report entitled "Resolution of herpes zoster-induced small bowel pseudo-obstruction by epidural nerve block: case report" for possible publication in the esteemed journal "World Journal of Clinical Cases". The manuscript needs major revision because of the following comments:

- 1. Major editing and language corrections are necessary. 2. There is no core tip in the main file. 3. Title a. The title missed the letter "A", therefore, correct it as "Resolution of herpes zoster-induced small bowel pseudo-obstruction by epidural nerve block: A case report". b. There is no running title. 4. Abstract a.It is not fractioned into the background, case summary, and conclusion as per journal style. b."weakened resistance" is a weak term. c. The sentence "Before herpetic manifestations appeared, the patient we treated was misdiagnosed as cholelithiasis with cholecystitis, because right upper abdominal pain ." is confusing to the readers. Please clarify it. Besides, you should start the description of the case with the age and gender of the patient and the chief complaint. d. "Conventional management of zoster-induced intestinal pseudo-obstruction largely includes antiviral therapy, gastrointestinal decompression, and enemas, whereas intestinal perforation calls for surgery. In this particular instance, epidural blockade effectively remedied a small bowel pseudo-obstruction due to herpes zoster. Similarly affected patients should perhaps be managed accordingly to facilitate treatment and avoid dire consequences (ie, intestinal necrosis and perforation) leading to surgery." It is a long conclusion with unnecessary information. 5. Each keyword should be started with a capital letter and separated from the other by a semicolon. 6. Introduction a. There is huge information without references. b. It needs to



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describe the challenging part i.e. why your case is important to be considered as a case report?, are there similar cases reported in the literature?, and what is the difference/s between your case and other similar reported cases?. 7. Case presentation a. You didn't follow the journal style of writing this section. b. This title (Case report) should be changed to "CASE PRESENTATION". c. The sequence of Figures should be changed; Figures 3 and 4 before Figures 1 and 2. Besides, it is better to unite Figures 3 and 4 into one Figure with two panels (A and B) and also Figures 5 and 6 into one Figure with two panels (A and B). d. The resolution of Figures 1 and 2 are not good and are of small sizes. e. It is better to use an arrow to delineate the obstruction in Figure 2. f.

Mention the side of the lesion in Figures 3, 4, 5, and 6. g. Please, start the word "Day" with a small letter. h. It is better to rewrite this sentence "(blood pressure [BP], 156/85 mmHg; heart rate [HR], 65 beats/min; oxygen saturation [SpO₂], 96-97%)." As such "[blood pressure (BP), 156/85 mmHg; heart rate (HR), 65 beats/min; oxygen saturation (SpO₂), 96-97%]". i. "However, but" I think one of them is enough to be used.

8. Discussion a. acyclovir (as antiviral therapy). It is well known that acyclovir is an antiviral, therefore, it is not necessary to mention it here. b. "The although" it is better to say "Although the". c. "This case demonstrates that in addition to pseudo-obstruction of the colon, herpes zoster may well induce pseudo-obstruction of small bowel. Epidural blockade addresses both the intercostal neuralgia and the obstructive gut manifestations that zoster inflicts and should be considered in similarly affected patients going forward. It may shorten the course of treatment and prevent dire obstructive consequences (ie, intestinal necrosis and perforation) requiring surgical intervention." This should be under the title of the "CONCLUSION" 9. References: they are NOT according to the journal style because: a. You didn't bold the first author in each reference. b. You didn't mention all authors. c. The last two references should be supported by their URL.



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Title: Resolution of herpes zoster-induced small bowel pseudo-obstruction by epidural nerve block: A case report

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 06109416

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MBBS, MD

Professional title: Attending Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: United States

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-05-03

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-05-17 03:04

Reviewer performed review: 2022-05-20 04:06

Review time: 3 Days and 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No



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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
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

What was the actual CT report by radiologist? Was it small bowel obstruction alone or signs of colonic obstruction was present too? It would be not making sense if T5-T10 zoster lesion could affect the large bowel too since it is nowhere contributing to the inferior mesenteric ganglion. If there was confirmed small bowel obstruction alone, then the texts regarding Ogilvie syndrome should be reduced. It's just too much. Likewise, the role of acupuncture needs stronger citation articles. The patient didn't even get acupuncture and I won't bring it up at all. Many minor changes recommended. See the comments and corrections in the word file. Otherwise, very well written. Will be looking forward to the publicaiton.



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Title: Resolution of herpes zoster-induced small bowel pseudo-obstruction by epidural nerve block: A case report

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05320840

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Croatia

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-05-03

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-05-19 17:36

Reviewer performed review: 2022-05-30 20:08

Review time: 11 Days and 2 Hours

Scientific quality	<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
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" 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
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Dear Authors, This case report needs major revision and some important suggestions are as follows: My suggestion for running title is “ Effects of epidural blockade in Herpes zoster”. Signed agreement from the patient must be indicated. A structured abstract is in accordance with journal propositions. At first, grammar corrections and proofreading from native English speaker are necessary. In the introduction section the main objective of this case report is not clearly stated. There are needs to emphasize what is contradictory from the literature including animal studies about effects of epidural analgesia on herpes zoster-induced small bowel pseudo-obstruction. It is necessary to give information that administration of corticosteroids into the epidural space may encourage adverse effects such as reactivation of latent virus in the dorsal root ganglion. We know that epidural corticosteroid may precipitate herpes zoster while attenuating postherpetic neuralgia. What are possible complications of the conventional management of zoster-induced intestinal pseudo-obstruction such as enemas? Maybe intestinal perforation may occur during injection of fluids and epidural blockade may be justified as a better choice in the treatment? These doubts must be more discussed in this manuscript. Are there similar clinical cases showing the effects of pain treatment by epidural analgesia on other complications such as bowel pseudo-obstruction in HZ patients ? Please, emphasize in the introduction section what is the importance of this case report ? What is specific for this case in comparison to the other similar articles? Methods section needs to be rewritten, started with clinical symptoms, followed by X ray or CT exams and blood analysis. Figures 3 and 4 is better to show as Figures 1 with two photos and Figures 1 and 2 together as Figure 2 with two photos and Figure



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5 and 6 as Figure 3 with tags on the photos to show most important details. A possible mechanism of an epidural analgesia in resolving abdominal problem such as bowel pseudo-obstruction is not explained at all. The importance of this case report is not explained through the comparison with other published cases or similar research. References must be in accordance with the journal style. The last two references are not novel. This is not historical review and references 18, 19 are better to avoid.



RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Clinical Cases*

Manuscript NO: 77501

Title: Resolution of herpes zoster-induced small bowel pseudo-obstruction by epidural nerve block: A case report

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer’s code: 06109990

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MBChB

Professional title: Academic Research, Full Professor, Senior Editor, Surgeon

Reviewer’s Country/Territory: Iraq

Author’s Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-05-03

Reviewer chosen by: Jia-Ru Fan

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-07-08 10:32

Reviewer performed review: 2022-07-08 20:02

Review time: 9 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
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous



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statements

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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Dear Authors, Thank you for revising your case report study entitled "Resolution of herpes zoster-induced small bowel pseudo-obstruction by epidural nerve block: A case repor" for possible publication in the esteemed journal "World Journal of Clinical Cases". I appreciate your great work in revising the article. However, the manuscript still needs minor revision according to my comments in the main manuscript file.