

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Cases

Manuscript NO: 42604

Title: Spontaneous cerebral abscess due to *Bacillus subtilis* in an immunocompetent male patient: A case report and review of literature

Reviewer's code: 00646395

Reviewer's country: Germany

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2018-10-04

Date reviewed: 2018-10-04

Review time: 4 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a sound case report but with limited clinical relevance. Even though *Bacillus subtilis* is a rare cause of cerebral abscess in immunocompetent persons, the case report has no major impact on clinical practice. Besides the issue of relevance there are only



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7901 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 501,
Pleasanton, CA 94588, USA
Telephone: +1-925-223-8242
Fax: +1-925-223-8243
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https:// www.wjgnet.com

some minor remarks: - The authors should comment on whether they think transthoracic ultrasound is sufficient to rule out endocarditis. - The authors should comment on the duration of the antibiotic regime. - A follow-up of this patient would be interesting to exclude re-occurrence of the abscess after a few weeks (see comment concerning antibiotic therapy). - In my opinion, priority claims ("first report") should be generally avoided; but this depends on the journal's policy. - Article highlights: The authors should provide a real "clinical diagnosis" based on their clinical findings and not just a description. The authors should at least briefly mention additional differential diagnosis based on the imaging findings.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ [Y] No

BPG Search:

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ [Y] No

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Cases

Manuscript NO: 42604

Title: Spontaneous cerebral abscess due to *Bacillus subtilis* in an immunocompetent male patient: A case report and review of literature

Reviewer's code: 03796332

Reviewer's country: China

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2018-10-19

Date reviewed: 2018-10-19

Review time: 2 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The article presented a rare case of spontaneous cerebral abscess caused by *B. subtilis* and highlighted the ultimate importance of appropriate oral hygiene and dental care to avoid potentially serious infectious complications and second. The importance of the



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Pleasanton, CA 94588, USA
Telephone: +1-925-223-8242
Fax: +1-925-223-8243
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manuscript is to indicate a rare case of spontaneous cerebral abscess caused by *B. subtilis*, evolved in a previously healthy immunocompetent male patient. The presented case is the first in the literature describing the evolution of a cerebral abscess by *B. subtilis*. The new concept proposed by the study is that oral bacteria might transfer to brain and cause diseases there. Overall, the manuscript was well written. However, it's better to present all the results of blood and cytokines as well, besides of the photos.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ [Y] No

BPG Search:

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- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ [Y] No