

Dear Editors and Reviewers:

Thank you for your letter and for the reviewers' comments concerning our manuscript entitled "Pleural Effusion in an Immunocompetent Host with Cryptococcal Pneumonia: A case report" (ID:53179). Those comments are all valuable and very helpful for revising and improving our paper. We have studied comments carefully and have made correction which we hope meet with approval. Revised portion are marked in red in the paper. The main corrections in the paper and the responds to the reviewers' comments are as following:

Reviewer #1:

1. Nicely written case report. Would add the heading before the last paragraph

Conclusion:

Response: We are very sorry for our negligence of missing the conclusion at the end of the paper, now we have added the conclusion at the last paragraph.

Reviewer #2:

1. This is a highlight of unusual presentation of cryptococcus in an immunocompetent patient. It is simply reported with a good outcome but the discussion need to be better focused to build a criteria of when to suspect this infection in the immunocompetent and try to build a table of incidence of radiological findings in the immunocompetent and contrast that with the immunosuppressed.

Response: It is really true as Reviewer suggested that the discussion need to be better focused to build a criteria of when to suspect this infection in the

immunocompetent, so we have re-written conclusion according to the Reviewer' s suggestion: "Therefore, if a patient has a relatively slow progression of lesions, as well as a poor response to antibiotics, without the signs of inflammation caused by tuberculosis and lung cancer, then the possibility of pulmonary cryptococcosis should be considered" was added. Considering the Reviewer' s suggestion, we have added in the discussion of the difference in radiological findings of pulmonary cryptococcosis in the immunocompetent patients and immunosuppressed patients.

We tried our best to improve the manuscript and made some changes in the manuscript. These changes will not influence the content and framework of the paper. And here we did not list all the changes but marked in red in revised paper. We appreciate for Editors and Reviewers' warm work earnestly, and hope that the correction will meet with approval.

Once again, thank you very much for your comments and suggestions.

Thank you and best regards.

Yours sincerely,

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