OPEN PEER REVIEW

Open Peer Review (OPR)

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What is "Open Peer Review" process?

An "Open Peer Review" process is making the details of all review process (including reviewers, associate editors, and EICs comments) as "Public" as it is agreed by EIC, Authors, and reviewers.

Advantages of "Open Peer Review" process

- More transparency, constructiveness and tactful comments of the peer review process: leads to an increase in the quality of reviews
- More motivations for all involved roles in the review process
- Authors' satisfactions from the review process: Increases honesty between authors and reviewers
- Education of both authors and new students
- Prevents reviewers from following their individual agendas and leading to the detection of reviewers' conflicts of interests

You can find out more at:
https://sites.kowsarpub.com/kowsar/knowledgebase/category/tree.html#opr.html

Journal of Skin and Stem Cell
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Peer Review Report for "Acral Lentiginous Melanoma on the Palm: Unusual Site with a Fatal Outcome"

Author(s): Ravindranath Brahmadeo Chavan, Vasudha Abhijit Belgaumkar, Nitika S. Deshmukh, Nupur Vasudeo Warke

Review Timeline:

Submit Date: 22 Jan 2020
Revised Date: 15 Mar 2020
Accepted Date: 19 Mar 2020

Revision (0)

Here, you can see the **Reviewers**, **Associate Editors** and **EICs'** comments from the beginning to the end of the revision process.

REFEREE: Reviewer | **Revision** (0) — 2 Mar 2020

Dear AE,
- It is suggested to provide a more relevant title.
- It has a high incidence of people with dark skin color. Please note how this can be a rare case in Indian.
- Correct Past simple verbs.
- It is more common on feet than on hands, but Can it be said that it is scarce?
- It was better to have a family history and a history of injuries.
- The illustrations at the end of the text are not numbered.
- Figure 2 is not available in the article.
- Include ALM abbreviations in the introduction.
- What were the authors' initial diagnoses about their patient?
Thanks.

REFEREE: Associate Editor | **Revision** (0) — 3 Mar 2020

Dear EIC
The reviewer(s) have recommended publication, but also suggest some minor revisions to

the manuscript. Therefore, I invite the author to respond to the reviewer(s)' comments and revise his manuscript.
Kind regards,

REFEREE: EIC | **Revision** (0) 3 Mar 2020

Dear Authors,
The manuscript can be published after revision.
Thanks.

OPEN PEER REVIEW

Revision (1)

Reply to Reviewers

Ideally, the reviewing process can significantly improve the submitted manuscripts by allowing the authors to take into account the advice of reviewers. Author(s) must reply to all reviewers' comments in a separate Word file, point by point. A "**Reply to Reviewers**" document is submitted along with revised manuscript during submission of revised files, summarizing the changes that the authors made in response to the reviewers' comments. The responses to reviewers' comments specifies how the authors addressed each comment the reviewers made.

You can read the authors' responses to the reviewers' comments in the next page.

Reply to reviewer's comments-

Reviewer 1-

Thank you for your kind review of our manuscript and constructive suggestions. Please find below responses to your comments.

Q - It is suggested to provide a more relevant title

A- Revised title- Acral lentiginous melanoma on the palm: unusual site with a fatal outcome.

Q- It has a high incidence of people with dark skin colour. Please note how this can be a rare case in Indian.

A- While occurrence of acral lentiginous melanoma (ALM) is not uncommon in dark skinned individuals, overall annual incidence proportion of melanoma itself in India is only 0.03 (Ferlay J, Erwik M, et al. GLOBOCAN 2018, Cancer Today : IARC CancerBase no. 15 [internet]. Accessed- 01/12/2019. Available at https://gco.iarc.fr/today/data/factsheets/populations/356-india-fact-sheets.pdf**). Moreover, palmar ALM has been rarely documented in Indians (only two cases reported) till date, hence this case is being reported for its unusual site.**

Q- Correct past simple verbs-

A- In accordance with previously published case reports in this esteemed journal, simple past tense has been used as this patient presented to us few months before writing the manuscript.

Q- It is more common on feet than on hands but can it be said that it is scarce?

A- **Acral lentiginous melanoma is more common on the feet than on the hands, and after an extensive search through existing literature with the help of various search engines (Pubmed, Medscape, Google scholar, etcetera), we have been able to find *only two published cases* of melanoma on the palm in Indians. This indicates that palm is an uncommon site for ALM in**

Indians or it has been rarely reported so far, thus highlighting the importance of a high index of suspicion to facilitate prompt recognition and early intervention.

Q- It was better to have a family history and a history of injuries.

A. There was no significant family history. According to the patient, the lesion occurred after a thorn prick to the site while working in the farm. This has now been included in the manuscript.

Q- The illustrations at the end of the text are not numbered,

A- Numbering of the legends (illustrations) was missing due to some technical error. Numbers have been now been added to the illustrations.

Q- Figure 2 not available in the article

A- Figure 2 is available on the next page as a single page could not accommodate all the figures as well as their legends.

Q- Include ALM abbreviatons in the introduction.

A- Corrections done as suggested.

Q- What were your initial diagnoses about your patient?

A-As the patient was a farmer by occupation and offered history of trauma,initial (provisional) clinical diagnoses considered were infected haematoma and deep fungal infection, post-traumatic tache noir/ talon noir and melanoma. This has now been included in the manuscript.

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Revision (1)

Here, you can see the **Reviewers**, **Associate Editors** and **EICs'** comments from the beginning to the end of the revision process.

REFEREE: Associate Editor | **Revision** (1) 19 Mar 2020

Dear EIC
Based on the authors' answers to the reviewers' comments, the reviewer(s) have recommended publication.
Kind regards.

REFEREE: EIC | **Revision** (1) 19 Mar 2020

Dear Author,
The document is reviewed carefully by the reviewers. According to their comments and your revisions as requested, this manuscript is accepted.
Thanks.