Reviewer’s report

Title: A retrospective analysis of eleven cases of invasive rhino-orbito-cerebral mucormycosis presented with orbital apex syndrome initially

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Reviewer: Jagdish Chander

Reviewer’s report:

1. The manuscript under peer review entitled, “A retrospective analysis of eleven cases of invasive rhino-orbito-cerebral mucormycosis presented with orbital apex syndrome initially” is effectively describing series 11 cases of mucormycosis.

2. This manuscript has been nicely written and focuses on this rare clinical entity, which is invariably missed or established very late at a time by which the complications become almost irreversible.

3. In the keywords, the semi-colon should not separate ocular manifestations and both the words are in continuity.

4. The Background of the manuscript/study has suitably given the precise information about the subject matter of the manuscript that complications of mucormycosis are increasingly being encountered in daily medical practice.

5. The case report series (Case Presentations) emphasizes on the relevant clinical details of the patients like diabetes mellitus, etc. which is very educative for the audience so that such type of cases are never missed in routine clinical practice. The texts as well as the tabulated form of the details are very precise.

6. The Discussion is exhaustively dealing with contemporary studies and the present findings in the light of similar other studies reported from time to time.

7. Orbital Apex Syndrome or Jacod syndrome may be caused by other fungi like Pseudallescheria boydii, etc. hence a few lines about those fungi/clinical findings may have been mentioned to differentiate from the disease caused by the Mucorales.

8. The clinical photographs, radiological and histopathological findings are excellently depicted in the manuscript. However, it should be checked whether the stained smear is of H&E or PAS stain. This much pink colour is seen only in PAS staining and not in the H&E. Hence it should be doubly checked.

9. The number of references is adequate covering almost every aspect of the Orbital Apex Syndrome vis-à-vis mucormycosis.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.
Declaration of competing interests:

I do not have any commercial or academic conflict of interests.