Reviewer’s report

Title: An unusual cause of inspiratory stridor in the newborn: congenital pharyngeal teratoma - a case report

Version: 2 Date: 20 June 2015

Reviewer: Kevin Sullivan

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Minor Essential Revisions
1. In line 69 one of the primitive embryonic layers is referred to as entoderm and I believe endoderm is the appropriate reference.

2. For completeness and education purposes please document the true researched incidence of neonatal teratomas in general and head and neck teratomas specifically. This is an essential piece of the background to appropriately frame the rarity of your case presentation. This would require editing lines 70 and 71 of the text and possible a portion of the abstract background. Lack of an actual written incidence of the rare mass you are presenting is the primary weakness of this case presentation. The authors mentions this region is 'seldom involved' but this needs to be enumerated.

Discretionary Revisions
1. For those that don't routinely examine the hypopharynx in this view, overlying arrows and orientation on the photos would be extremely helpful. I appreciate that the authors describe the images in the text, but directly labeling the photos would be very beneficial to the reader and improve ease of reading. This is particularly important for figures 1 and 2.

2. In the case presentation the authors do not mention any perinatal evaluations of the mother beyond an uneventful pregnancy. I'd be curious to know whether she had any prenatal imaging and whether that imaging detected a mass. The natural history of these tumors during the fetal and neonatal period is interesting.

3. I don't believe the author's list of labs adds significantly to the work and mostly occupies space, since there is no mention in the text of any abnormal labs. I believe the authors could simply state that fact and drop the figure for efficiency purposes and clarity of focus, unless the authors wish to discuss why the LDH was elevated in the report.

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 declare that I have no competing interests'