

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-59331

Title: MENINGEAL TUBERCULOSIS: A DIAGNOSTIC CHALLENGE. A CASE REPORT.

Recommendation:

Accept after major revision

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality			✓	
Techn. Quality				✓
Clarity			✓	
Significance			✓	

Reviewer's ID: JPR-198

Detailed Reviewer's Report

This is a case report of tuberculous meningitis in a 19-year-old immunocompetent male from Mexico. The topic is relevant for clinicians in endemic areas. However, the manuscript has significant weaknesses in clinical data, image quality, and discussion depth. It requires substantial revision before consideration for publication.

Major Comments:

1. Missing key clinical data: vital signs, full neurological exam, GCS, symptom duration, and patient outcome/follow-up.
2. CSF findings are atypical: low protein and normal glucose. Explain these findings.
3. Treatment conflict: rifampicin resistance was found, but the regimen included rifampicin. Clarify what regimen was actually used.
4. Dexamethasone was started before diagnosis and while neurocysticercosis was suspected. Justify this.
5. MRI figures are poor quality: no labels/arrows, low resolution, and no sequence details.
6. Discussion is too generic. Add case-specific analysis and lessons learned.
7. No consent statement for publication.

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Minor Comments:

- Use consistent term: tuberculous meningitis, not meningeal tuberculosis.
- Update old WHO and Cochrane references.
- Timeline is confusing. Make a clear table or figure.
- Table 1 appears incomplete.
- Shorten long sentences.
- Conclusion is vague and not supported by the case.
- No chest imaging findings reported.
- No treatment response or follow-up provided.