

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-525604

Date: 04-07-2025

Title: BEYOND THE ORDINARY – ATYPICAL MYCOBACTERIUM IN APPENDICULAR ABSCESS

Recommendation:

Accept as it is

Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

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

Reviewer Name: Dr Aamina

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

General Comments:

The manuscript explores a rare and clinically intriguing presentation of appendicitis associated with atypical mycobacterial (non-tuberculous mycobacteria, NTM) infection, a topic of increasing relevance given the growing awareness of NTM in extrapulmonary infections. The abstract effectively establishes the clinical rarity of the condition and frames the case within the broader differential diagnosis of appendicitis, particularly in immunocompromised patients or those with atypical features.

The emphasis on histopathological examination and the discovery of granulomatous inflammation with acid-fast bacilli is well presented and aligns with current diagnostic standards for mycobacterial diseases. The narrative reflects the importance of integrating histology and microbiology in diagnosing unusual causes of appendicular abscesses.

The introductory section offers a brief yet appropriate historical and clinical context for tuberculous appendicitis. The manuscript notes the continued diagnostic challenges and outlines the lack of consensus in management, emphasizing the diagnostic overlap with non-tuberculous appendicitis. The mention of primary and secondary forms, as well as acute, chronic, or latent presentations, provides a solid clinical backdrop.

The case description is concise and clinically structured, with relevant examination findings documented clearly. It highlights a typical presentation of appendicitis with an ultimately atypical etiology, reinforcing the manuscript's core message.

The reflective component from a medical trainee's perspective adds a personal and educational layer, underlining the importance of considering rare causes in everyday clinical scenarios. This enhances the manuscript's educational value, especially for trainees and early-career practitioners.

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Recommendation:

The manuscript provides a compelling and educational case report that successfully bridges clinical presentation, pathological correlation, and diagnostic insight. It is a valuable contribution to the literature on atypical infectious causes of appendicitis and suitable for publication in journals focusing on case reports, infectious diseases, or surgical pathology.