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REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-54756

Title: Primary Atrophic Rhinitis in a Child: A Case Report and Literature Review

Recommendation:

Accept as it is ……Yes……

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: Professor Dr Dillip Kumar Mohapatra

Detailed Reviewer's Report

Title:

Primary Atrophic Rhinitis in a Child: A Case Report and Literature Review

1. Strengths

1. **Rare Presentation:**
   - **The report describes a rare pediatric case of primary atrophic rhinitis (PAR), which is exceptionally uncommon in children. This adds valuable documentation to the limited literature on pediatric presentations.**
2. **Comprehensive Case Description:**
   - **The clinical presentation, diagnostic approach (endoscopy, CT findings, lab tests), and management are clearly outlined, demonstrating a logical and evidence-based diagnostic pathway.**
3. **Literature Integration:**
   - **The discussion effectively correlates the patient's presentation with previously published studies, emphasizing epidemiological, pathological, and therapeutic aspects.**
4. **Clarity and Structure:**
   - **The manuscript follows a clear case report structure (Abstract, Introduction, Case Presentation, Discussion, Conclusion), and the language is precise and clinically appropriate.**

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5. **Educational Value:**
    - **It highlights the diagnostic challenge and importance of early recognition and conservative management of PAR, providing useful insights for clinicians and trainees in otolaryngology.**

2. Weaknesses

1. **Limited Diagnostic Depth:**
    - **While imaging and cultures were performed, no histopathological confirmation or microbiological analysis beyond basic culture (e.g., Klebsiella ozaenae detection) was included.**
2. **Short Follow-Up:**
    - **The follow-up period is briefly mentioned as "ongoing," but lacks detailed information on long-term outcomes or recurrence.**
3. **Limited Novelty in Literature Review:**
    - **The literature review summarizes known facts but could be strengthened by including newer pathophysiological insights (e.g., molecular or immunologic mechanisms).**
4. **No Comparative Discussion:**
    - **The case could benefit from a brief comparison with previously reported pediatric cases (e.g., age, symptoms, region, treatment outcomes).**
5. **References:**
    - **Some references are secondary sources (ScienceDirect Topics) or general overviews; inclusion of more original clinical research or recent systematic reviews would enhance scientific rigor.**

3. Significance of the Study

- **Clinical Significance:**
  The case underscores that primary atrophic rhinitis can occur in children, even without known risk factors, and highlights the importance of early conservative therapy (saline irrigation, humidification) to prevent progression and improve quality of life.
- **Public Health Relevance:**
  It draws attention to the ongoing prevalence of atrophic rhinitis in

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developing regions, where climate, hygiene, and healthcare access remain contributing factors.

- **Academic Contribution: Serves as a valuable addition to pediatric otorhinolaryngology literature, documenting a rare presentation and reinforcing clinical awareness among ENT specialists.**

4. Key Points

- **Primary atrophic rhinitis is extremely rare in children, and may present with nasal crusting, fetor, and paradoxical obstruction.**
- **Diagnosis is mainly clinical, supported by endoscopy and imaging.**
- **Conservative management with saline irrigation and nasal humidification can yield excellent outcomes in mild cases.**
- **The etiology remains multifactorial, involving infectious, nutritional, mechanical, and genetic factors.**
- **Long-term follow-up is essential due to the chronic, potentially recurrent na*ture of the disease.***