**COVER LETTER**

To,

The Editor-in-chief

Annals of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (APALM)

**Subject:** Submission of Manuscript for publication

We intend to publish an article entitled “*Corynebacterium amycolatum* causing breast abscess- An infecting Diphtheroid with a difference” in your journal as a “Case report”. Non diphtheriae *Corynebacterium* or Diphtheroids are usually considered as contaminant when isolated from any body site. So, these bacteria are not further speciated and are thus ignored. Moreover, the identification of these bacteria is quite difficult. In literature, although Non diphtheriae Corynebacterium has been linked with breast tissue infections but there are very few case reports emphasizing the clinical significance of this group of bacteria. We have isolated *C. amycolatum* from a case of breast abscess which was really clinically significant. We want to emphasize the importance of direct Gram stain examination of the specimen and rapid automated identification technique i.e. MALDI-TOF Vitek MS for demonstrating the clinical significance of such type of bacterial isolates and thus optimum management of cases. The publication of this case will definitely increase the awareness of the readers for this group of bacteria which is usually underestimated and carry a research propensity for the clinical management of patients.

On behalf of all the authors, I will act and guarantor and will correspond with the journal from this point onward. All authors of this manuscript declare that this manuscript represents valid work and that neither this manuscript nor one with substantially similar content under the present authorship has been published or is being considered for publication elsewhere and the authorship of this article will not be contested by anyone whose name(s) is/are not listed here, and that the order of authorship as placed in the manuscript is final and accepted by the co-authors. Each author also acknowledges that this final version was read and approved.

We certify that all the data collected during the study is presented in this manuscript and no data from the study has been or will be published separately. We attest that, if requested by the editors, we will provide the data/information or will cooperate fully in obtaining and providing the data/information on which the manuscript is based, for examination by the editors or their assignees.

We also certify that we there is no ethical problem or conflict of interest.

We have read the all policies including Copyright Policy of the Journal and agree to abide by the same in the event such work is published by the journal.

CONTRIBUTION DETAILS:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Nature of work** | **AUTHORS** |  |
| **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **7** |
| Concepts | √ |  |  |  |  |  | √ |
| Design | √ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Definition of intellectual content |  | √ |  |  |  |  | √ |
| Literature search | √ |  |  |  |  | √ |  |
| Data acquisition | √ |  |  | √ |  | √ |  |
| Data analysis | √ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Manuscript preparation | √ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| Manuscript review |  |  | √ | √ | √ |  | √ |
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Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

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**TITLE PAGE**

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| Running Title | *Corynebacterium amycolatum* causing breast abscess |

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