

Review of: "Mycetoma in Animals a Review of Cases Reported From 1925-2022; Epidemiology and Management Strategies"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The manuscript "Mycetoma in Animals: A Review of Cases Reported From 1925-2022; Epidemiology and Management Strategies" tackles a very interesting topic among neglected infectious diseases, trying to compile the published information on this disease in animals for almost a hundred years. Efforts should therefore be made to ensure that it is published. However, in its current state, the manuscript cannot be accepted because, unfortunately, it is very poorly written and organized, with serious syntactic and grammatical errors. Consequently, it should be reviewed and merits important changes in all sections; it also requires a technical-scientific review, hopefully by a specialist in mycology who is fluent in English.

Considering that there are many aspects that need to be corrected and modified, I listed below a few that need to be addressed as a priority:

1. There are serious errors in syntax, including the unnecessary use of commas and punctuation where they don't belong, making the text confusing for the reader.
2. There are frequent errors in the spelling of the scientific names of agents; I point out a few: (i) some are not properly italicized, (ii) some species are in capital letters, (iii) some genus and species are united in a single word and with other words. Here are some examples, *N. otitidis-caviarum*, *Nocardia asteroides*, *Madurella mycetomatis*, *Nocardia farcinia*, *Scedosporium apiospermum*, *Pseudallescheria boydii*. These errors are repeated throughout the text and especially in Table 1.
3. Other examples: Uncorrect: "...(*Actinomyces* species)... (*Nocardia* species)" vs correct: "...(*Actinomyces* species) ... (*Nocardia* species)"; Uncorrect: "*Madurella mycetomatis*" vs correct: "*Madurella mycetomatis*"; Uncorrect: "...*Curvularia* species" vs correct: "...*Curvularia* species"; Uncorrect: "...*Curvularia* spp." vs correct: "...*Curvularia* spp."
4. Scientific names should be written fully (genus and species) only the first time, and then the genus should be abbreviated the following times they are referred to. Examples: *Madurella mycetomatis* vs *M. mycetomatis*; *Nocardia otitidiscaviarum* vs *N. otitidiscaviarum*.
5. Frequent errors in the citations; some examples: Pag. 10: "...by the presence of granules [46][47][48][49][50]." Change to "...by the presence of granules [46-50]."; "...from the United States [15][18][19][20][23][59][60][61]." Change to "from the United States [15,18-20,23,59-61]."
6. Isolated sentences should not be presented as paragraphs. As examples, see: Page 10, last paragraph, and Pag. 12, first paragraphs.

7. The references follow different and arbitrary models, are incorrect, and should be standardized following the guidelines for the authors of Qeios.

Specific observations:

- The title was incorrectly redacted and does not reflect the real content of the manuscript.
- Similarly, the Summary does not reflect the content of the manuscript and suggests that mycetoma is limited to mycotic diseases.
- I suggest the inclusion of a Discussion section.
- I also suggest a review of the current scientific names of the different agents involved in the etiology (eumycetes and actinomycetes) to ensure that the reader has a clear understanding of the association of these pathogens with clinical conditions (eumycetoma and actinomycetoma), including pseudomycetoma.

There are several technical and scientific aspects about the pathogens and diseases that are not explained in my observations and suggestions (clinical, among others). For this reason, I suggest that the author seek the help of specialists in mycology and infectious diseases of mammals.

General decision: I do not recommend the acceptance of the manuscript; however, I encourage the author to make the suggested corrections, rewrite, and resubmit a new version for their consideration in Qeios.

An improved version will surely deserve to be published, considering that the author did an arduous job of reviewing and compiling a lot of information about mycetoma in animals.