We read with interest the article ‘Reversed halo sign in pulmonary zygomycosis’ by Walsh and Roberton in the November issue of Thorax. The authors report a case of cryptogenic organisng pneumonia with the atoll sign, also called the reversed halo sign. As mentioned by the authors, this CT sign was first described in pulmonary zygomycosis in a 24-year-old woman undergoing chemotherapy for recurrence of acute myelogenous leukaemia, 1 year following allogeneic stem cell transplantation, with a 2-week history of fever and dry cough. (A) Chest CT shows a focal round area of ground-glass attenuation surrounded by a ring of consolidation in the right lower lobe, consistent with the reversed halo sign. (B) Photomicrograph of the specimen from a transthoracic biopsy of the lesion shows pauciseptated hyphae with non-parallel walls and 90° branching, characteristic of Zygomycetes species, which is confirmed by culture. (C) One-month follow-up CT shows cavitation of the lesion, which eventually resolved under antifungal therapy.

Figure 1 Pulmonary zygomycosis in a 24-year-old woman undergoing chemotherapy for recurrence of acute myelogenous leukaemia, 1 year following allogeneic stem cell transplantation, with a 2-week history of fever and dry cough. (A) Chest CT shows a focal round area of ground-glass attenuation surrounded by a ring of consolidation in the right lower lobe, consistent with the reversed halo sign. (B) Photomicrograph of the specimen from a transthoracic biopsy of the lesion shows pauciseptated hyphae with non-parallel walls and 90° branching, characteristic of Zygomycetes species, which is confirmed by culture. (C) One-month follow-up CT shows cavitation of the lesion, which eventually resolved under antifungal therapy.