Author's response to reviews

Title: Synchronous Appendiceal and Intramucosal Gastric Signet Ring Cell Carcinomas in an Individual with CDH1-associated Hereditary Diffuse Gastric Carcinoma: a Case Report of a Novel Association and Review of the Literature

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Author's response to reviews: see over
June 30, 2013

Attn: Dr. Christopher Foote
Executive Editor
BioMed Central

Re: MS: 2139061247861273
Synchronous Appendiceal and Intramucosal Gastric Signet Ring Cell
Carcinomas in an Individual with CDH1-associated Hereditary Diffuse Gastric
Carcinoma: a Case Report of a Novel Association and Review of the Literature
Leslie E Hamilton, Kirsten Jones, Neal Church and Shaun A Medlicott

Dear Dr. Foote,

Thank you for your letter dated June 7, 2013 indicating our manuscript is
potentially acceptable for publication in BMC Gastroenterology, subject to minor
revisions and responses to the reviewers’ comments.

The revised manuscript has now been uploaded in Biomed Central, as per your
instructions. We sincerely appreciate the comments from all of the reviewers
who reviewed our manuscript. Reviewer #2 suggested minor modifications to
areas of our manuscript, and we have provided a point-by-point response to
those concerns below.

1) Consider shortening the background and case report section.
   - We thank the reviewer for this comment and have reviewed both the
   background and case report section with this aim; however we feel
   that all of the content is relevant to the discussion of this case and a
   review of the literature.

2) Consider adding a pedigree diagram (family tree) showing affected and
   unaffected individuals.
   - We agree that a pedigree diagram would have been useful to
demonstrate the family history in this case report. Unfortunately we
have insufficient information about the unaffected individuals of this
family to complete a pedigree diagram.

3) Consider adding to the case presentation section what prompted the thought
   for genetic screening 6 years after breast cancer diagnosis.
   - We thank the reviewer for bringing it to our attention that the case
   presentation was unclear with regards to the timing of the genetic testing.
   We have revised sentence #3 of paragraph #1 of the case
   presentation section to clarify that the patient had genetic
   screening one year after her breast cancer diagnosis.
Other revisions
- In reviewing the clinical history to respond to comment #3, we also
  retrieved more specific information relevant to the family history, and
  have revised sentence #2 of paragraph #1 of the case presentation
to indicate that the “metastatic malignancy of unknown
primary” was “metastatic gastric adenocarcinoma”.

- In order to make the above changes and improve the flow of the case
  presentation, we have revised paragraph #1 and #2 of the case
  presentation as follows: the second part of sentence #3, and
  sentence #4, both of paragraph #1, have now been incorporated into
  the first sentence of paragraph #2.

Thank you for providing us with the opportunity to submit our revised manuscript.
I hope that we have adequately addressed the comments of the reviewers and
that our manuscript will be published in BMC Gastroenterology.

Sincerely,

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