Author's response to reviews

Title: Epidemiological evaluation of concordance between initial diagnosis and central pathology review in a comprehensive and prospective series of sarcoma patients in the Rhone-Alpes region

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Miss Colette Homan,

Our manuscript entitled: "Epidemiological evaluation of concordance between initial diagnosis and central pathology review in a comprehensive and prospective series of sarcoma patients in the Rhone-Alpes region" by Antoine Lurkin et al. has been revised according to the comments of the last sent. 

Our answers are as follows:

- **Page 4** :
  - **connective tumor** :
    Changed in:
    Connective tissue tumor
  - **Similarly, patients were not included. When primary diagnosis had been established in the reference center (Leon Berard Cancer Center) by one of the ‘experts’ or if the tumor specimen was not sent to the expert or when there was not enough tumor material.**
    Changed in :
    Similarly, patients were not included when primary diagnosis had been established in the reference center (Leon Berard Cancer Center) by one of the ‘experts’ or if the tumor specimen was not sent to the expert or when there was not enough tumor material

- **Page 6** :
  - **myxoid roud cell** : changed in
    myxoid round cell
  - **by an other expert (international expert like Pr Fletcher) or/and discussed at panel**
    Changed in :
    by another expert (international expert Pr Fletcher) or/and discussed at panel
- **Page 9:**

♦ **Exactly, in the zero concordance, the diagnose were changed from benign to malignant for 7 patients.**

Changed in:

More precisely, in the zero concordance group, the diagnoses were changed from benign to malignant for 7 patients

- **Page 10:**

♦ **the higher rate of non evaluation (n= 85, 66%) of grade by diagnostic pathologists**

Changed in:

discrepancies was the very high proportion (n= 85, 66%) of tumors not graded by diagnostic pathologists

♦ **benign tumor or carcinoma sarcomatoid.**

Changed in:

benign tumor or sarcomatoid carcinoma.

- **Page 11:**

♦ **The concordance observed in the two groups of patients in table 6.**

Changed in:

The concordance observed between the two groups of patients is described in table 6

- **Page 14:**

♦ **exhaustiveness. A dirty little secret in sarcoma pathology**

Changed in:

exhaustiveness. It is well established in sarcoma pathology

This modified version of the manuscript has taken into account all the reviewers' recommendations. We hope that this new version will be acceptable for publication in *BMC Cancer*.

Thank you for the attention you will pay to our work.

Sincerely.

A Lurkin Ph D