Author's response to reviews

Title: Genetic and epigenetic characteristics of human multiple hepatocellular carcinoma

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

Changed parts in the manuscript are shown with blue characters. Red characters indicate the parts changed in the previous revision.

Response to comments of the editorial board member

We thank the editorial board member for pointing out the rarity of biological IM. It is quite valuable, and we revised the manuscript accordingly. Changes are as follows.

Page 3. abstract-conclusions.

Page 13. The first paragraph was changed. The second paragraph of the previous manuscript (shown at the last) was deleted.

Page 13-14. The last two lines of page 13, and the first two paragraphs of page 14 were changed.

Page 14 last to page 15.

Responding the last comment of the editorial board member, we added a sentence in page 13 lines 3-4.

Response to comments by Dr Midorikawa

We changed the discussion and the conclusions, following the point made by the editorial board member. We hope that this reviewer would change his opinion.
Response to comments by Dr Hoshida

We submitted the CGH data to GEO, and are still communicating with the GEO curator, because the deadline of the submission of the revision is set at 1 July. For reference, we show a mail from the curator at the end of this document.

(Appendix)

The deleted paragraph.

As the methylation status was not discrete, we evaluated the similarity of overall methylation patterns. We found that the tumors from the same patient had a more similar methylation pattern than those from different patients. Unlike genetic changes, epigenetic changes were not necessarily irreversible. A similar methylation pattern for multiple HCC reflected something specific to the development in the same individual, but it may be due to the derivation from a common ancestor or other reason, such as similar environment during carcinogenesis.

A mail from the GEO curator dated 29 June 2010.

------- MESSAGE BODY. YOU MAY CHANGE IT OR ADD COMMENTS ABOVE
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Dear Dr. Kato,

Thank you for your recent GEOarchive submission. While reviewing your
submission, we noticed a few matters that require your attention.

[1] You did not upload your raw data files (i.e. Agilent Feature Extraction output files) together with your Excel spreadsheet.

[2] Please provide a short description for the data in the matrix table including normalization algorithm (e.g. lowess normalized log10 ratio (Cy5/Cy3)).

[3] Your Platform id appears incorrect. Please note that GPL2879 contains 44290 data rows, whereas, your matrix table contains 45215 data rows. We should be able to find a correct Platform id for your submission after receiving your Agilent Feature Extraction output files.

Please zip, tar or rar your files as a single archive file and upload it using Direct Deposit at:


(select 'other' as the file format, and 'update' as the submission kind)

Please let us know if you have any questions or require assistance.

Sincerely,
Kathy

Katherine Phillippy
GEO Curator
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