Title: Initial partial response and stable disease according to RECIST indicate similar survival for chemotherapeutical patients with advanced non-small cell lung cancer

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Sept 21, 2010
Dear editor,
Thank you very much for giving us some constructive advice on the manuscript entitled “initial partial response and stable disease according to RECIST indicate similar progression-free survival for chemotherapeutical patients with advanced non-small cell lung cancer”. Your advice is very helpful to researches in this field. Here we address your concerns point-by-point.

Response to Dr. Takehito Shukuya:
Comments and answers:

1 The authors revised the manuscript according to my comments. However, because overall survival is a very important end-point of all solid tumors, the authors must add the analysis including overall survival to the manuscript. I can not judge this manuscript to be acceptable without this revision.
Answer: Upon your request, we have added analysis of overall survival in our manuscript, which is underlined in the manuscript.

2 In "Results, Distribution of Response Categories and Patient Characteristics" section, the authors added the reason of 9 withdrawals after completing their first cycle of chemotherapy. It is better for the authors to add these reasons in Figure 1, too.
Answer: Upon your request, we have added these reasons in Figure 1.

Thank you very much for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely yours

Yunpeng Liu