Author's response to reviews

Title: Intracranial metastasis from primary transitional cell carcinoma of female urethra: case report & review of the literature

Authors:

Kyung-Sub Moon (herhuz@hanmail.net)
Shin Jung (sjung@chonnam.ac.kr)
Kyung-Hwa Lee (azimmed@hanmail.net)
Eu Chang Hwang (urohwang@gmail.com)
In-Young Kim (kiy87@hanmail.net)

Version: 3 Date: 8 December 2010

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dec 06, 2010

Dear Editor-in-Chief

I’d like to thank the editor and reviewers of the ‘BMC Cancer’ for taking their time to review our article (MS: 9106295183936401). I have made some corrections and clarifications in the manuscript after going over your comments. The changes are summarized below. (In revised manuscript, the added sentences are expressed by red-colored and the deleted sentences are expressed by strikethrough & underlined feature):

Answers for the first reviewer’s comments
1. English editing for improving the grammar.
   
   **Corrections**: Several sentences and words were changed.

Answer for the second reviewer’s comments
1. Considering the primary end-point of the manuscript a detailed description of patient medical history is required. In particular, it seems mandatory to specify in text if surgery was able to remove all intracranial metastases. Moreover, was CT scan performed at the time of initial diagnosis as a part of staging work up? Please detail.
   
   **Corrections**: 20-22 lines of Page 4, 12 & 15-16 lines of Page 5, many sentences were added for clarifying this point, as suggested.

2. It could be very useful to include in the manuscript some details about the chemotherapy and neurosurgery related toxicities.
   
   **Corrections**: Page 8, 4-10 lines, the paragraph was added for clarifying this point, as suggested.

3. Considering the very dismal survival in patients with proven diagnosis of brain metastases from TCC, with only 2 months of post-brain diagnosis survival reported by the authors, the surgical choice seems to be questionable. For these reasons, we suggest to the authors to provide a wider discussion on this crucial point in the appropriate manuscript section.
   
   **Corrections**: from 12 line of Page 7 to 25 lines of page 8, some paragraphs with new references were added for clarifying this point, as suggested.
4. In order to improve the quality of the manuscript it could be very useful to include in the manuscript a brief review of the previously reported cases of intracranial metastases arising from urinary TCC, focusing on the clinical management of this rare and very unfavourable entity.

**Corrections:** 22-25 lines of Page 6, 1-4 lines of Page 7, 1-3 lines of Page 9, some paragraphs were added for clarifying this point, as suggested.

5. The references section seems to be redundant, please include only appropriate citations.

**Corrections:** some redundant references were deleted with reformatting citation, as suggested.

6. Minor revisions:
1) Page 6, line 1: please correct “squmaous” with “squamous”.
2) Page 6, line 10: replace “adaption” with “adoption”.

**Corrections:** we changed, as suggested.

We also changed/inserted many sentences or words to clarifying the meaning of the manuscript.

I hope the revised manuscript will better meet the requirements of the ‘BMC Cancer’ for publication. I’d like to thank you again for the constructive comments by reviewers.

Sincerely yours,

Shin Jung, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor