Author's response to reviews

Title: Adjuvant radio-chemotherapy for extrahepatic biliary tract cancers

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Version: 5 Date: 23 June 2011

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Prof. Dr. Zhao-Chong Zeng,

We would first thank you again for having considered our paper suitable for publication at BMC Cancer.

We resubmit the last revised version where we have applied the last minor corrections proposed by the reviewers.

Following, we attach our replies to the reviewer’s last minor requests, again point-by-point and highlighted in blue. We reference as well the changes in the text to make it easier for the editors.

Finally, I would like to note that I have a compound surname that is a kind feature of Spanish family names. Sometimes, this is misunderstood in English. Therefore, my name is Marta, and my surname (-s) is (-are) “Bonet Beltran”, without a hyphen. I have well introduced my name and surname(s) on the submission system as mentioned previously. I would just make this comment to avoid eventually confusions that I unfortunately have experienced, beforehand, when submitting and publishing papers in other scientific journals.

We are looking forward to hearing from you,

Sincerely,

Dr. Marta Bonet Beltran
(Corresponding author)
Reviewer's report
Title: Adjuvant radio-chemotherapy for extrahepatic biliary tract cancers
Version: 3 Date: 27 May 2011
Reviewer: yerko borghero
Reviewer's report:
I have read the reviewed manuscript and all corrections were made. It seems fine for publication.
Kind regards
Yerko Borghero MD
Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
Quality of written English: Acceptable
Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Reviewer's report
Title: Adjuvant radio-chemotherapy for extrahepatic biliary tract cancers
Version: 3 Date: 23 May 2011
Reviewer: Wenhui Lou
Reviewer's report:
all the questions raised on last review are answered by the authors, and the necessary material suplimented. No futher comment. The value of adjuvant therapy of periampullary tumor is still debated, this data presented in this paper provide meaningful evidentce.
Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
Quality of written English: Acceptable
Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Reviewer's report
Title: Adjuvant radio-chemotherapy for extrahepatic biliary tract cancers
Version: 3 Date: 23 May 2011
Reviewer: Liu Houbao
Reviewer's report:
EBDC are uncommon malignancies, especially much lower morbidity in authors’ district, characterized by a poor prognosis with high rates of loco-regional recurrence as well as has been considered the cancers that show no activity on radiotherapy in the past. Though the patients involved in this study were only 23 patients (4 gallbladder, 7 ampullary and 12 cholangiocarcinoma), the authors had performed long-term follow up, investigated and evaluated the effectiveness of the radiotherapy and its toxicities and made analysis precisely. So much so that the conclusion that postoperative radiotherapy with 50-60 Gy was safe and effective for the patients with EBDC could be trusted and be useful for clinical practice.

Minor Essential Revisions
1 chemoradiation (row 2 of third paragraph in page 4 in cover letter) should be corrected as “chemo-radiation”. The next chemoradiation written in article should be corrected
Is now corrected (last version of the revised manuscript)
2 “We have considered as extrahepatic biliary tract neoplasms cholangiocarcinoma” (row 1 of the fourth paragraph in page 8 in cover letter) neoplasms with cholangiocarcinoma, make an alternative
Is now corrected (last version of the revised manuscript)

3 “sistematically” (row 5 of second paragraph in page 9 in cover letter), what’s the meaning?
We used this term to depict something that occurs repeatedly. Following the reviewer request, and with the aim to improve the sentence sense, we have modified the term “sistematically” by the term “frequently”.

4 “radiosensitization effect” (row 4 of second paragraph in page 11 in cover letter), should be corrected as “radiosensitivity”
Is now corrected (last version of the revised manuscript)

5 “radiotherapeutic” (row 2 of third paragraph in page 12 in cover letter) should be corrected as “radio-sensitivity”
Is now corrected (last version of the revised manuscript)

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field
**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.
**Declaration of competing interests:**
I declare that I have no competing interests