Author's response to reviews

Title: Tumor size as measured at initial X-ray examination, not length of bile duct stricture, predicts survival in patients with unresectable pancreatic cancer

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Author's response to reviews:

To the  
Editorial Office  
BMC Cancer

Dear Editor,

I hereby submit our manuscript titled: “Tumor size as measured at initial X-ray examination, not length of bile duct stricture, predicts survival in patients with unresectable pancreatic cancer” for evaluation of publication in BMC Surgery.

Our findings illustrate that the size of the maximum tumor diameter of the primary tumor during the initial X-ray examination of patients with pancreatic cancer may predict survival time for those patients who had no surgical resection. On the other hand, stricture length at ERCP gave no information on survival. In the literature studies of patients with unresectable pancreatic cancer concerning survival are not many and in this study we have focused on tumor size and bile duct stricture length which has not been reported before. This new knowledge may have implications in the treatment of palliative patients with unresectable pancreatic neoplasm.

I hope that you will find the manuscript suitable for your journal and that it will be considered for publication. The manuscript has neither been published nor is it currently under consideration for publication by any other journal.

The study was approved by the Regional Ethical Review Board in Lund, Sweden (EPN Dnr 2012/92). Since all patients were dead when starting the study no informed consent was possible.

Sincerely,

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