Author's response to reviews

Title: Overexpression of YAP 1 contributes to progressive features and poor prognosis of human urothelial carcinoma of the bladder

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor-in-Chief

We are grateful for the opportunity to submit the revised manuscript entitled “Overexpression of YAP 1 contributes to progressive features and poor prognosis of human urothelial carcinoma of the bladder”. As you required, we have addressed the comments of the Reviewers. Please find our detailed responses to the Reviewers comments along with revision of the text as indicated. We ensure that the revised manuscript conforms to the BMC Cancer style. We hope that the revised manuscript will satisfy the Editor and is acceptable for publication in the BMC Cancer.

Sincerely yours,

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To Professor Bian:

Suggestion:
1. YAP1 is expressed in both nuclei and cytoplasm of cells. However, in the Figure 1, the author only presented the nuclear expression in UCBs. The authors should add a picture showing positive expression in the cytoplasm of UCBs?

Reply: Thank you for your comment. We have added a picture (Figure 1F) showing the positive expression in the cytoplasm of UCBs in Figure 1.

Minor Essential Revisions:
2. Page 4, line 7, the sentence "depth of tumor invasion, presence or absence of lymph node and distant metastases" is too tedious, should change to "pTNM stage".

Reply: Thank you, we have changed "depth of tumor invasion, presence or absence of lymph node and distant metastases" to "pTNM stage" (Page 4, line 7).

3. Page 10, line 1, third word, "patientt's" should be changed to "patient's".

Reply: Thanks, We have changed "patientt's" to "patient's" (Page 10, line 1).

4. Page 15, line 1, change "correlateclosely" to "correlated closely".

Reply: Thank you. We have changed "correlateclosely" to "correlated closely" (Page 14, line 20).

5. Page 15, line 10, change "higher T and/or N stages" to "higher pT and/or pN stages".

Reply: Thanks. We have changed "higher T and/or N stages" to "higher pT and/or pN stages" (Page 15, line 7).

6. Page 24, In Figure 2 legend, there is a mistake in writing. Change "Kaplan-Meier survival analysis of H3K27me3 expression in patients with UCB" to "Kaplan-Meier survival analysis of YAP1 expression in patients with UCB".

Reply: Thank you. We have changed "Kaplan-Meier survival analysis of H3K27me3 expression in patients with UCB" to "Kaplan-Meier survival analysis of YAP1 expression in patients with UCB" in Figure 2 legend (Page 24, line 19).
Quality of written English:
7. Needs some language corrections before being published

Reply: Thanks. We have checked thoroughly the manuscript and polished the grammar errors carefully by a native speaker (labeled in yellow background).
To Professor Stoehr:

1. One major point I want to ask the authors: what is their definition of "adjacent normal tissues"? For the interpretation of the results it is essential to know if normal urothelium or normal urothelial tissue (including stroma and/or muscle) was analysed.

Reply: Thank you for pointing out such a mistake we had made. “adjacent normal tissues” means “normal tissues”, not “adjacent tissues”. That is to say, we analyze the YAP 1 expression of the urothelial carcinoma of the bladder tissue and normal urothelial tissue. It’s may be a mistake in writing. We want to highlight the normal urothelial tissue from the same urothelial carcinoma of the bladder patients, so we use the “adjacent normal tissues” instead of “normal tissues”. In our article, in the qRT-PCR and Western blotting analysis, we have changed “adjacent normal tissues” to “paired normal tissues”, in the immunohistochemistry (IHC) analysis, we have changed “adjacent normal tissues” to “normal tissues”.

Quality of written English:
2. Needs some language corrections before being published

Reply: Thanks. We have checked thoroughly the manuscript and polished the grammar errors carefully by a native speaker (labeled in yellow background).