Author's response to reviews

Title: Clinical significance of L-type Amino Acid Transporter 1 Expression as a Prognostic marker and Potential of New Targeting Therapy in Biliary Tract Cancer

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor

My coauthors and I submit the enclosed manuscript, “Clinical significance of LAT1 expression as a prognostic marker and potential of new targeting therapy in Biliary Tract Cancer” for publication in BMC Cancer.

The manuscript has not been published nor submitted for publication elsewhere except as a brief abstract in the proceedings of a scientific meeting or symposium, and we agree to transfer copyright to BMC Cancer in the event that this manuscript is accepted for publication.
All authors have contributed significantly and are in agreement with the content of the manuscript.

Comment
Ethics Statement
Research involving human subjects (including human material or human data) that is reported in the manuscript must have been performed with the approval of an appropriate ethics committee. Research carried out on humans must be in compliance with the Helsinki Declaration (http://www.wma.net/en/30publications/10policies/b3/index.html). A statement to this effect must appear in the Methods section of the manuscript, including the name of the body which gave approval, with a reference number where appropriate.

Consent Statement
Please state in the Methods section whether written informed consent for participation in the study was obtained from participants or, where participants are children, a parent or guardian.

Response
Thank you for your recommendation. The following sentences have been added in Materials and Methods section:
“This study was approved by the institutional review board of our institution, and written informed consent was obtained from all of the patients or their families who participated to this study. “

Thank you for your consideration of our paper.
We look forward to hearing from you.
Sincerely,
The salient and novel findings
In patients with biliary tract cancer, a high expression of LAT1 plays a crucial role on the pathogenesis and metastasis, and LAT1 is a pathological biomarker for predicting poor outcome after surgery. Our experimental study demonstrated that LAT1 inhibitor, BCH, significantly suppressed the tumor growth and yielded an additive efficacy to gemcitabine and 5-FU. The inhibition of LAT1 may be a new targeting therapy for patients with cholangiocarcinoma.