Author's response to reviews

Title: Expression of EPHRIN-A1, SCINDERIN and MHC class I molecules in head and neck cancers and relationship with the prognostic value of intratumoral CD8+ T cells.

Authors:

Meriem Hasmim (Meriem.Hasmim@igr.fr)
Cecile Badoual (cecile.badoual@egp.aphp.fr)
Philippe Vielh (Philippe.Vielh@igr.fr)
Francoise Drusch (Francoise.Drusch@igr.fr)
Virginie Marty (Virginie.Marty@igr.fr)
Agnes Laplanche (Agnes.Laplanche@igr.fr)
Mariana de Oliveira Diniz (modiniz@usp.br)
Hélène Roussel (helene.roussel@egp.aphp.fr)
Eléonore De Guillebon (eleonore04@gmail.com)
Stéphane Oudard (stephane.oudard@egp.aphp.fr)
Stéphane Hans (stephane.hans@egp.aphp.fr)
Eric Tartour (saeric.tartour@egp.aphp.fr)
Salem Chouaib (salem.chouaib@igr.fr)

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REPLY TO REVIEWER 1:

The authors have reported the relation among ephrin, scinderin, and cytotoxic T cells infiltrating cancer in a series of 83 patients with head and neck tumor. They conclude that no prognosis value could be attributed to these factors independently and that their results needed a deep study about the other microenvironmental features. Even if almost all the required corrections have been made, the small analyzed series suggest a deep revision of the data. However, unfortunately, this paper does not seem to provide the kind of major conceptual advance.

We thank the Reviewer for his helpful comment. We agree that larger cohorts of more than 100 patients may provide more significant data. However, our work presents immunohistochemical staining on 83 patients, which is a relatively small cohort but of acceptable size (see Badoual C Clin Cancer Res 2006; Badoual Canc Res 2013).