Author's response to reviews

Title: Serum p53 antibody detection in patients with impaired lung function

Authors:

Manlio Mattioni (mattioni@ifo.it)
Patrizia Chinzari (pattykick1ym5tc@yahoo.it)
Silvia Soddu (soddu@ifo.it)
Lidia Strigari (strigari@ifo.it)
Vincenzo Cilenti (cilenti@ifo.it)
Eliuccia Mastropasqua (mastropasqua@ifo.it)

Version: 6 Date: 21 January 2013

Author's response to reviews: see over
Rome, January 21, 2013

Dr Christna Chap
Senior Executive Editor
BioMed Central

MS: 1704048913751312

Dear Dr Christna Chap,

Please find enclosed a revised version of the manuscript “Serum p53 antibody detection in patients with impaired lung function” by Manlio Mattioni et al., for publication to BioMed Central Cancer.

We would like to thank you for the opportunity to submit a revised manuscript. We have copyedited our paper further, according to the editorial request. A point by point response to the concerns is reported below.

In summary, we think we have made appropriate revisions to satisfy the concerns raised by the editorial request. Thus, we submit this revised manuscript and hope it will be published in BioMed Central Cancer.

Sincerely yours,

Dr Manlio Mattioni, MD
Experimental Research Centre
Regina Elena National Cancer Institute
Via delle Messi d’Oro 156
00158 Rome, Italy
Telephone number: +390652662528
Fax number: +390652662505
E-mail address: mattioni@ifo.it

Answers to the editorial request

However before acceptance, we would strongly urge you to please copyedit the paper further.
As suggested, we have made the following changes to the text of the paper:

1) First line of the abstract: the term “express” has been substituted with “can lead to the expression of”;
2) First and second line of the abstract: the terms “allows for the survival of genetically unstable cells, which can in turn” have been substituted with “in turn may enable genetically unstable cells to survive and”;
3) Second line of the abstract: we have added the term “early” after “accumulates”;
4) Third line of the abstract: the term “can” has been inserted before “precociously”, after “precociously” the term “induces” has been substituted with “induce”, then the terms “(p53Abs); in fact,” have been inserted after “antibodies”;
5) Line 5 of the abstract: the term “(COPD)” after “Disease” has been eliminated;
6) Line 10 of the abstract: we have added the terms “or other cancers” after “cancer”;
7) Line 13 of the abstract: from this line the term “sex” has been always substituted with “gender”;
8) Lines 13 and 14 of the abstract: the terms “a correlation was found in” have been substituted with “p53Abs correlated with”;
9) Line 14 of the abstract: from this line the terms “pack-year” have been always substituted with “packs-year”;
10) Line 15 of the abstract: the terms “in positive subjects” have been inserted after “level”; 
11) Line 16 of the abstract: the numbers in brackets “1.2-65.3” have been substituted with “1.2 to 65.3 units/ml” and the term “Finally,” has been substituted with “Only”; 
12) Lines 16 and 17 of the abstract: the terms “have been assessed for serum p53Abs several times and have also resulted positive in the tests that followed” have been substituted with “participated in the follow-up, again resulting positive for serum p53Abs”; 
13) Line 17 of the abstract: the term “and” has been inserted before “no evidence” and the terms “has been” have been substituted with “was”; 
14) Lines 20 and 22 of the abstract: the term “lung” before “cancer” has been eliminated; 
15) Line 21 of the abstract: we have added the terms “or other cancers” after “cancer.”

1) First line of the background: the term “and” has been substituted with “;” and the terms “, the death rate” have been inserted after “States”; 
2) Lines 3 and 4 of the background: the terms “just reaches a rate of” have been substituted with “is only”; 
3) Line 5 of the background: the term “genetic” has been inserted before “alterations”; 
4) Line 6 of the background: the term “express” has been substituted with “can lead to the expression of”; 
5) Line 7 of the background: the term “accumulating” has been substituted with “which then accumulate”; 
6) Line 9 of the background: the terms “, in turn, induces” have been substituted with “can in turn induce” and the terms “in fact” have been inserted before “there is”; 
7) Line 11 of the background: we have added the term “early” after “considered as”; 
8) Second page of the background, first line: the term “A” has been substituted with “Further, a”; 
9) Second page of the background, line 8: the term “suppresses” has been substituted with “can suppress”; 
10) Second page of the background, line 10: the term “decreases” has been substituted with “can reduce”; 
11) Second page of the background, line 15: the term “An” has been substituted with “Finally, an” and the term “for”, before “lung cancer”, with “of”; 
12) Second page of the background, line 20: we have added the terms “or other cancers” after “cancer”; 
13) Second page of the background, line 21: the term “lung” before “cancer” has been eliminated.

1) Third line of the methods: the term “impaired” has been substituted with “type lung function”; 
2) Line 18 of the methods: we have included the sentence “Serum samples were obtained from all subjects at the time of the lung function tests, thereafter,” before “fifteen”; 
3) Line 21 of the methods: we have added the terms “of the chest” after “scans”; 
4) Third page of the methods, first and second line: the sentence “Serum samples were obtained from subjects at the time as lung function tests and during the follow-up.” has been eliminated and the term “serum” has been inserted after “All”.

1) Line 4 of the results: the term “and” has been substituted with “or”; 
2) Lines 5 and 11 of the results: we have added the term “habit” after “smoking”; 
3) Lines 6, 8, 9 and 10 of the results: the term “out” has been inserted before “of 86 non-smokers”, “of 421 current smokers”, “of 168 ex-smokers”, “of 269 current smokers”, “of 88 ex-smokers”, “of 152 current smokers” and “of 80 ex-smokers”, respectively;
4) Lines 7, 9, 15 and 21 of the results: the term “the” has been inserted before “42 non-smokers”, “44 non-smokers”, “non-smokers”, “399 subjects” and “276 patients”, respectively; 
5) Line 18 of the results: the terms “in pack-year” have been substituted with “with packs-year”; 
6) Line 24 of the results: we have included the sentence “Then, we examined the correlation between serum p53Abs and, on one hand, subjects with normal lung function or mildly altered tests and on the other hand, patients with moderate to severe impairment of lung function.” before “A higher rate”; 
7) Second page of the results, first line: the sentence “; the multivariate analysis confirmed this correlation” has been substituted with “, this correlation was confirmed by a multivariate analysis”; 
8) Second page of the results, second and third line: the sentence “Based on the univariate analysis, sex was a statistically significant predictor, rather than the smoking habit.” has been eliminated; 
9) Second page of the results, third and fourth line: the terms “based on the multivariate analysis, lung function test impairment was a” have been substituted with “the multivariate analysis showed the lung function test impairment to be”; 
10) Second page of the results, line 6: the term “also” has been substituted with “further”; 
11) Second page of the results, line 8: the term “and” after “by age” has been substituted with “or”; 
12) Second page of the results, line 10: the terms “in pack-year” have been substituted with “with packs-year”; 
13) Second page of the results, lines 13, 14 and 15: the sentence “. As reported in Table 4, no correlation was found between median p53Ab levels and clinicopathologic features, such as age, sex, smoking status and lung function impairment.” has been substituted with “such as age, gender, smoking status and lung function impairment, but no correlation was found as reported in Table 4.”; 
14) Second page of the results, line 15: the terms “we did not observe any” have been substituted with “no”; 
15) Second page of the results, line 16: we have added the terms “was observed” and “presumably” after “levels” and “time,” respectively; 
16) Second page of the results, lines 16 and 17: the sentence “we found four positive subjects” has been changed as “four positive subjects were found”; 
17) Second page of the results, line 22: the sentence “and resulted positive also in the following tests, but” has been substituted with “again resulting positive for p53Abs, and”; 
18) Second page of the results, line 23: we have added the terms “of the chest” after “CT”.

1) First line of the discussion: the term “out” has been inserted before “of 675”; 
2) Line 12 of the discussion: the term “; we” has been substituted with “with regard to the number of cigarettes smoked per day and packs-year and”; 
3) Line 13 of the discussion: the terms “in pack-year” have been substituted with “with packs-year”; 
4) Line 22 of the discussion: the term “could” has been substituted with “can”; 
5) Second page of the discussion, first line: the term “also” has been inserted before “been”; 
6) Second page of the discussion, lines 11 and 12: the terms “induced by smoking” after “cancer” have been eliminated; 
7) Second page of the discussion, line 14: the term “functions” has been substituted with “can function”; 
8) Second page of the discussion, line 15: the terms “p53 mutations” have been substituted with “mutant p53 proteins”; 
9) Second page of the discussion, line 16: we have added the terms “and other cancers” after “cancer”; 
10) Second page of the discussion, line 17: the term “lung” before “cancer” has been eliminated; 
11) Second page of the discussion, lines 17 and 18: the terms “in our study,” have been substituted with “this study shows”;


12) Second page of the discussion, line 19: the sentence “no lung cancer was observed” has been substituted with “neither lung cancer nor other cancers were observed” and the term “lung” after “with” has been eliminated.

1) First line of the conclusions: we have added the terms “and other cancers” after “cancer”;
2) Line 4 of the conclusions: the term “lung” before “cancer” has been eliminated.