Author's response to reviews

Title: Clinicopathological analysis of thymic malignancies with a consistent retrospective database in a single institution: from Tokyo Metropolitan Cancer Center

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Dr. Solera:

Thank you for considering our manuscript “Analysis of a consistent retrospective database of thymic malignancies in a single institution”; formerly titled “Clinicopathological analysis of thymic malignancies with a consistent retrospective database in a single institution: from Tokyo Metropolitan Cancer Center” for possible acceptance for publication in *BMC Cancer* subject to revision.

Below are our point-by-point responses to the reviewers’ queries.

**Reviewers’ Queries:**
We have amended our article after checking your requirements and recently published articles in *BMC Cancer*. It is in the form of a provisional PDF with all changes in red font.

1) Please include email addresses for all authors on the title page.'

Response: We have added the email addresses of all authors (p. 1).

2) Please include the full name of the institutional review board(s) which approved your study.’

Response: We have included the full name of the relevant Ethics Committee. (p. 7, lines 41–43, p. 20, lines 276–279).

3) Please provide Authors Contribution section.
For manuscripts with more than one author, all BMC Series journals require an Authors' Contributions section to be placed after the Competing Interests section.
An ‘author’ is generally considered to be someone who has made substantive intellectual contributions to a published study. To qualify as an author one should 1) have made substantial contributions to conception and design, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data; 2) have been involved in drafting the manuscript or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and 3) have given final approval of the version to be published. Each author should have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content. Acquisition of funding, collection of data, or general supervision of the research group, alone, does not justify authorship.
We suggest the following format (please use initials to refer to each author's contribution):
AB carried out the molecular genetic studies, participated in the sequence alignment and drafted the manuscript. JY carried out the immunoassays. MT participated in the sequence alignment. ES participated in the design of the study and performed the statistical analysis. FG conceived of the study, and participated in its design and coordination and helped to draft the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.
Contributors who do not meet the criteria for authorship should be listed in an acknowledgements section. Examples of those who might be acknowledged include a person who provided purely technical help, writing assistance, or a department chair who provided only general support.

Response: We have added an Authors Contribution section as specified above. (p. 20, lines 284–290).

4) Please include funding sources for all authors and the study in your acknowledgement section.

Response: We have done as you requested. (p. 20, lines 296–297).

We confirm that all eight authors have approved the above corrections. We hope that you will now find our paper acceptable as an original article for publication in *BMC Cancer*. We look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,

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