Author's response to reviews

Title: Plasma D-dimer level is an independent prognostic factor for nasopharyngeal carcinoma patients

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

I’m very glad to send my manuscript entitled “Plasma D-dimer level is an independent prognostic factor for nasopharyngeal carcinoma patients” to you. Hemostatic alterations occur during the development of cancer. Plasma D-dimer is a hypercoagulability and fibrinolytic system marker increased in patients with various solid tumors. However, the clinical significance of D-dimer in nasopharyngeal carcinoma has not been established. Hence we made a hypothesis that plasma D-dimer might contributed to the growth, progression and metastasis for nasopharyngeal carcinoma and can take its value as a prognostic marker. Interestingly according to our finding, to the best of our knowledge, this study is the first large-scale evaluation of the
role of plasma D-dimer for refining the prognostic stratification of NPC patients. This study demonstrated that D-dimer were positively correlated with poor disease-free survival, distant metastasis-free survival, and overall survival for NPC patients. In addition, the plasma D-dimer level can still stratify the prognosis for early stage, advanced stage cancer, and patients with EBV DNA $\geq 4000$ copies/ml, suggested plasma D-dimer could be a useful indicator for designing strategies to personalize management in future.

The manuscripts contain original material. We did not report any similar work previously. The manuscript category is original article (head and neck cancer). All authors have read and approved the manuscript. It was prepared referring to the current instructions for authors. There were no financial or other relationships which may lead to a conflict of interest. We deeply appreciate your consideration of our manuscript, and we look forward to receiving comments from the reviewers.

I look forward to your favorable reply.

Sincerely yours,

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