Author's response to reviews

Title: ADAMTS2 gene dysregulation in T/myeloid mixed phenotype acute leukemia

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor in Chief,

please find enclosed our manuscript entitled “ADAMTS2 gene dysregulation in T/myeloid mixed phenotype acute leukemia” which we are submitting in the hope that it may be found suitable for publication in BMC Cancer. We describe a case affected by a rare kind of leukemia (T/myeloid Mixed phenotype acute leukemia) characterized by ADAMTS2 gene dysregulation which allowed us to monitor the minimal residual disease. The present case underlines the importance of molecular studies in rare leukemias to better understand disease pathogenesis and plan best therapeutic strategies.

The manuscript has been modified according to Editors comments (in italics) as follows:

- “I would ask the authors to provide some sequence evidence confirming the breakpoint (in genomic or cDNA)”. Chromosomal rearrangement breakpoints have been identified by using Bacterial Artificial Chromosomes (BAC) clones in FISH experiments, revealing the juxtaposition of ADAMTS2 gene near to the TRD locus without the generation of a fusion gene. Unfortunately, further molecular analyses would be difficult to perform due to sample paucity.

- “Some additional controls (e.g. Tumour samples without the translocation) in the expression analysis is also required”. Expression analysis has been repeated by adding pools of normal karyotype AML and ALL patients. The manuscript text (lines 133-134, 138), Figure 4, and Figure 4 legend have been modified accordingly.

All the authors declare that the material is original research and has not been submitted for publication elsewhere while under consideration. No potential competing interests are declared.
Thanking you in advance for your kind attention,

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