Author's response to reviews

Title: Cytotoxic effects of Gemcitabine-loaded liposomes in human poorly differentiated thyroid carcinoma cells.

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to: Editor
BMC Cancer

Roma, 27/2/2004

Dear Editor,

Here find enclosed the revised manuscript entitled "Cytotoxic effects of Gemcitabine-loaded liposomes in human poorly differentiated thyroid carcinoma cells", by Marilena Celano, Maria Grazia Calcagno, Stefania Bulotta, Donatella Paolino, Franco Arturi, Domenicantonio Rotiroti, Sebastiano Filetti, Massimo Fresta and Diego Russo, submitted for publication in BMC Cancer.

The manuscript has been revised according to all the suggestions of the referees, so that all their questions have been answered. In particular:

- 'poorly differentiated' has been substituted by 'anaplastic' throughout all the manuscript, including the title, the abstract (first and last sentence), the introduction (first sentence), the discussion (first paragraph) and the conclusion, as required by both referees (point 1)
- a comment on the relationship between gemcitabine uptake and its cytotoxicity eventually tested in other tumor cells, as required by referee 2, point 2 and 3) has been added in the discussion, (last paragraph)
- how the different concentrations of gemcitabine were obtained, as required by referee 1, point 2, is now better explained in the methods, last sentence of the paragraph 'Liposome preparation'. In the same paragraph, it is now specified that the non-encapsulated drug is removed prior to resuspend the loaded liposomes in the culture medium (minor point 1 by referee 1)
- the figure 3 has been corrected. In the y axis is now reported 'mortality ratio over control' (minor point 2 by referee 1)
- mistyping of micromolar, derived from the conversion in .pdf format, has been corrected (minor point 3 by referee 1)

We believe that this revised version of the manuscript is now acceptable for publication in BMC Cancer.

Yours sincerely
Prof. Sebastiano Filetti