Author's response to reviews

Title: Calcitonin-producing well-differentiated neuroendocrine carcinoma (carcinoid tumor) of the urinary bladder: case report

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Changes made according to the Reviewer's report

1.

A table of primary antibodies has been added and table 1 in the text has been changed in table 2.

Tab 1. Primary antibodies used for immunophenotyping

Antibody  Manufacturer  Dilution  Method
Keratin 7  DAKO, Carpinteria, CA, USA 1:200  ABC
Chorionic Gonadotropin  DAKO, Carpinteria, CA, USA 1:200  ABC
Chromogranin A  DAKO, Carpinteria, CA, USA 1:50  ABC
Synaptophysin  DAKO, Carpinteria, CA, USA 1:20  ABC
S-100
DAKO, Carpinteria, CA, USA 1:200  ABC

NSE
DAKO, Carpinteria, CA, USA 1:8000  ABC
Serotonin  DAKO, Carpinteria, CA, USA 1:100  ABC
Calcitonin Santa Cruz Biotechnology Inc, Santa Cruz, CA 1:100  ABC
Thiroid transcriptional factor  DAKO, Carpinteria, CA, USA 1:100  ABC
Progesteron  DAKO, Carpinteria, CA, USA Ready to use  ABC
2.

The calcitonin immunoreactivity represents merely an incidental finding with no biological or clinical consequence. In fact preoperative serum calcium level was within normal limits.

3.

* "this tumor shows specific clinical, macroscopic and histological features" instead of "this tumor shows an appropriate clinical setting": OK

* "In conclusion, we here add another case of carcinoid tumor of the urinary bladder to the existing literature" instead of "In conclusion our findings confirmed that carcinoid tumor of the urinary bladder does exist": OK

* "Two cases of these neoplasms have been reported recently by Martignoni and Eble (1). According to a critical review of the literature performed by these authors, only four (2-5) of twelve previously reported cases showed convincing evidence of neuroendocrine differentiation and might therefore be regarded as pure carcinoid tumors of the urinary bladder" instead of "Two cases of these neoplasms have been reported recently (1); the authors carried-out a critical review of the literature, revealing only 4 previously reported pure carcinoid tumors of the urinary bladder in which there was convincing evidence of neuroendocrine differentiation (2-5)"

4.

* "January 2004" instead of "Genuary 2004": OK

* " carried out" instead of "carried-out": OK

* "p 53" instead of "p-53": OK

* "The better differentiated members of this group, carcinoid tumors" instead of "The better differentiated members of this group, carcinoid tumor": OK

* "Like the classic carcinoid tumors" instead of "Like to the classic carcinoid tumors": is OK

5.

Discretionary Revisions:

The patients was seen at last follow-up 14 months after diagnosis and he was completely negative.