Author's response to reviews

Title: Histological response of peritoneal carcinomatosis after hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemoperfusion (HIPEC) in experimental investigations.

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Mr Hodgkinson,

Please find our revised version of the manuscript “Histological response of peritoneal carcinomatosis after hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy (HIPEC) in experimental investigations..”
MS: 4726153589009844 by Pelz et al. for reconsideration for publication in BMC Cancer. We have provide a point-by-point response below to the concerns of the two reviewers.

Reviewer 1 (Frans A.N. Zoetmulder)

We thank the reviewer for his thoughtful review of our manuscript and appreciate his positive review of our findings to accept the manuscript after minor revisions.

➢ Shame operation is now specified
➢ We have not seen the problem, that the rats were to sensitive to systemic hyperthermia during the abdominal perfusion. The temperature only crised up to 38,5 °C (that result is discribed in the methods-publication in BMC Cancer by Pelz et al. So, we do not performing cooling for the brain.
➢ The extent of PC is now reported.
➢ Yes, we removed the perfusate from the abdomen after 90 minutes as was described before (Pelz et al BMC Cancer) For this abstract we have this point reported again.
➢ Thew tumor cell survival is now placed in the results.
➢ The legend of table 1 and 2 is more explained. The unit is laced. Comparison of the treatment groups versus the sham group is explained in the text.
➢ The german word “gruppe” is changed to “group”

Reviewer 2 (Eelco de Bree)

The histological slices were observed again. The distance of apoptotic cells from the tumor margin were described for each group.

Histological outcome was pup uped in the conclusion

The key words were changed. “Colon carcinoma” was added.

“Introduction” The rationale of HIPEC is now better described. That human populations in clinical trials are very heterogenous and the point that the effect of HIPEC could be effectively studied in this animal model was pointed in the instruction.

“Methods”
“Martin” is omitted.
The first sentences in the paragraph “tumor model were reduced to the important informations
The treatment groups are described by latin numbers completely in the text. The defination of the groups is now made only in the paragraph “methods”. The redundant explaining was reduced.
Now, the timing of treatment modalities is described. The calculation of body surface is now described and treatment of group II and group V is described in detail.

“Results”
Right, we do not know the diameter of group I, So changed this information to group II-V.
“Disfavorable” was substituted by “adverse”
“port sites” means the tumor mass excluding the primary induced tumor. “Total tumor load” means the complete tumor mass in the abdomen. This point was more described.
Now, we made clear, that the cancer index are the mean values.
Now. Table 1 is refer befor table 2
The text of “results” is now reduced. There are no more dublications.
“Tumor morphology did not change with aging of the rats” means, that the morphology is not different if the rats are 8 weeks or 20 weeks old. This sentences was canceled.
Now, left axis of table 1 has a legend.

“Discussion”
“Gruppe” is changed in “group”
on page 12 carcinomatosis was added.
The same points as mentioned for the intruduction was done for the discussion
The increasing tumor load after sham operation was discussed.

The references are now written conform the guidlines of BMC Cancer

The manuscript was linguistically reviewed.

We feel that the revisions have strenghened the contention. The authors thank for your consideration of our revised manuscript.

Sincerely,
Joerg O.W. Pelz  M.D.