Author's response to reviews

Title: Malignant teratoma of the uterine corpus

Authors:

Thomas Newsom-Davis (t.ndavis04@imperial.ac.uk)
Daniel Poulter (drdanielpoulter@doctors.org.uk)
Rebecca Gray (beckygray@doctors.org.uk)
Mohammed Ameen (mohammed.ameen@sash.nhs.uk)
Iain Lindsay (iain.lindsay@imperial.nhs.uk)
Kyriakos Papanikolaou (kyrpap@doctors.org.uk)
Simon Butler-Manuel (simon.butler-manuel@sash.nhs.uk)
Peter Townsend (peter.townsend@sash.nhs.uk)
Michael Seckl (m.seckl@imperial.ac.uk)

Version: 2 Date: 9 June 2009

Author's response to reviews: see over
9th June 2009

Dear Dr Bucceri,

Thank you for your email of 29th May regarding our case report, “Malignant Teratoma of the Uterine Corpus”. We have studied Reviewer 1’s comments and address these individually below:

1. The para-aortic lymph nodes were not biopsied as the radiological findings were highly suggestive of metastases from the uterine teratoma. Furthermore, para-aortic lymph nodes are a common and very well described site for GCT metastases. Indeed after surgery (see point 3 below), histology confirmed the presence of metastatic teratoma in the resection specimen. This last point has been added to the manuscript.
2. As requested, we have added an explanation of our rationale for using the chemotherapy regimen (page 5).
3. Since the original submission of the paper there have been several clinical developments. Following a partial response to treatment the patient underwent surgery (retroperitoneal lymph node dissection; RPLND). Sadly she died a month after this. A description of these events has been added to the text.

We have added Timothy Christmas to the authorship as he performed the RPLND and all other authors have agreed to this. In addition, we declare that none of the authors have competing interests and this statement has been added to the manuscript, as requested.

We believe we have addressed the points raised by Reviewer 1 and trust that the manuscript is now suitable for publication.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Seckl

Address for correspondence:
Dept. of Medical Oncology
Charing Cross Hospital
Fulham Palace Road
London W6 8RFs