Author’s response to reviews

Title: Multiple plexiform schwannomas in the plantar aspect of the foot: case report and literature review

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Version: 2 Date: 13 September 2014

Author’s response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor and reviewers:

Thank you very much for your letter and for the reviewers valuable comments concerning our manuscript entitled “Multiple plexiform schwannomas in the plantar aspect of the foot: case report and literature review”. We have studied comments carefully and made correction which we hope meet with approval. Revised portion are marked in green in the paper. The main corrections in the paper and the responds to the reviewer’s are as flowing.
Responds to the editor’s comments:

Editorial Requirements:

1. Please revise your manuscript to include line and page numbers.

2. The abstract of the manuscript should not exceed 350* words and must be structured into separate sections: - Background -Case presentation - Conclusions

3. Authors should obtain permission to acknowledge from all those mentioned in the Acknowledgements section.

Reply: Thank you for your valuable suggestion. This paper has been revised according to your comments. We have added the line and page numbers throughout the manuscript. The abstract has been structured into separate sections. Acknowledgements section has been added in the revised paper. If there is any question, we would like to revise the manuscript according your suggestions.

Changes in text (Page 3, line 46; Page10, line 214):

Abstract

**Background:** Plexiform schwannoma (PS) is a rare, peripheral nerve sheath tumor arranged in a plexiform pattern.

**Case presentation:** We report an unusual case of a 19-year-old woman, who complained of pain in the plantar aspect of the left foot. Magnetic resonance image
(MRI) demonstrates three solitary nodules of varying sizes in the deep soft tissue of the plantar aspect of the foot that are homogeneously isointense to skeletal muscle on T1-weighted images and hyperintense on T2-weighted fat-suppressed images, especially the rim of the lesion. Subsequent pathological examination confirmed the diagnosis of PS.

**Conclusion:** MRI characteristic plays an important role in detecting this rare lesion. A review of the literature on PS is also presented.

**Keywords:** Plexiform schwannoma, Neurofibromatosis, Magnetic resonance imaging

**Acknowledgements**

The authors wish to thank the patient of multiple plexiform schwannomas and her for supporting our work.

**Reviewer Beat Knechtle’s report:**

**Background**

Please insert some details about the frequency and dignity of schwannoma in general

**Reply:** Thank you for your valuable comments.

We have added some details about the frequency and dignity of schwannoma in
general according to your suggestions.

Changes in text (Page 3, line 60):

Background

Schwannoma is a benign, peripheral nerve sheath tumor, occurring commonly in the persons of 20-50 years old [1], and manifests about 5% of benign soft-tissue neoplasm [2]. Schwannomas usually involve in head, neck, flexor surfaces of extremities and nerves [2-3]. Plexiform schwannoma (PS) is a rare distinctive variant, accounting for 2-5% of all schwannomas [4-6]. It frequently affects patients aged 30-40 years with no sex predilection, and occurs commonly in the dermis and subcutis with a predilection for head and neck [7].


Insert a reference for ‘The MR imaging features of PS, however, were described only partially by some case reports’
Reply: Thank you for your valuable comments.

We have added a reference for “The MR imaging features of PS, however, were described only partially by some case reports” according to your suggestions.

Changes in text (Page 4, line 70):

The MR imaging features of PS, however, were described only partially by some case reports [12].


Change to ‘The current paper aims to demonstrate distinct imaging features of PS in the plantar aspect of the foot which may be vital to facilitate the diagnosis process in the future and to give a short literature review.

Reply: Thank you for your valuable comments.

We have revised this sentence according to your suggestion in the paper.

Changes in text (Page 4, line 73):

The current paper aims to demonstrate distinct imaging features of PS in the plantar aspect of the foot which may be vital to facilitate the diagnosis process in the future and to give a short literature review.

Case presentation
Page 5, change to …two of the three nodules were located in….

Reply: Thank you for your valuable comments.

We have corrected and rewrite this sentence according to your suggestion in the revised manuscript.

Changes in text (Page 5, line 95):

Two of three nodules were located in the flexor digitorum brevis below the plantar aponeurosis (Figure 2a; Figure 3) and one nodule was in the superficial fascia of the third metatarsophalangeal joint (Figure 2b).

Discussion

Page 6, change to …………Ikushima et al. [5]……..

Reply: Thank you for your valuable comments. We have corrected and rewrite this sentence according to your suggestion in the revised manuscript (Page 7, line 135).

Reviewer- Martin Pressman’s report:

1. Major Revisions. none

2. Minor revisions

Reply: Thank you for your valuable comments. This paper has been revised
according to your suggestions. And we add your valuable paper for our bibliography in our revised article. (Page 3, line 51; Page 4, line 70)