Author's response to reviews

Title: Predicting Survival after Pulmonary Metastasectomy for Colorectal Cancer: Previous Liver Metastases Matter

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

We would like to thank you for the opportunity to revise our manuscript entitled “Predicting Survival after Pulmonary Metastasectomy for Colorectal Cancer: Previous Liver Metastases Matter” that we previously submitted to BMC SURGERY. We would like also to thank the reviewers for their judicious comments, and are happy to provide herein a point-by-point answer to their comments. In the revised version of the manuscript, all changes are highlighted in blue.

REVIEWER 1: did not ask for revisions

REVIEWER 2:

- Agree and corrected accordingly the introduction (page 3), as well as the references 2 and 4 (page 11)

Resection of hepatic metastases from colorectal cancer (CRC) has yielded 5-year survival rates ranging from 25% to 50% [1, 2]. Similarly, resection of lung metastases from CRC has yielded 5-year survival rates ranging from 20% up to 60% in large series [3, 4]. Based on these encouraging results, many surgeons have expanded the indications for resecting metastatic
CRC, and there is nowadays growing pressure to perform lung metastasectomy, even in asymptomatic CRC patients.


Agree and corrected accordingly in the Method section (see page 5) adequate pulmonary reserve to tolerate the planned resection, in accordance with classic oncologic criteria for pulmonary metastasectomy.

Figures 1 and 2: Legends were changed according to the reviewer’s corrections (see pages 17 and 18).

**FIGURE 1**: KAPLAN-MEIER OVERALL SURVIVAL OF 40 COLORECTAL CANCER PATIENTS WHO UNDERWENT RESECTION OF LUNG METASTASES

**FIGURE 2**: KAPLAN-MEIER OVERALL SURVIVAL OF COLORECTAL CANCER PATIENTS WHO UNDERWENT RESECTION OF LUNG METASTASES ACCORDING TO THE PRESENCE OR NOT OF PRIOR LIVER METASTASES

We would like to thank again the reviewers for their contribution and we hope that this manuscript will be of interest for your readership. Do not hesitate to contact me for further information.

Best regards,

Pascal A. Gervaz, M.D.