Author's response to reviews

**Title:** Prognostic factors for recurrence-free and overall survival after adrenalectomy for metastatic carcinoma: a retrospective cohort pilot study

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**Version:** 4  **Date:** 7 May 2014

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As Editor’s recommendation, we tried to clarify the answers to the questions. Below, we provide a point-by-point response to the individual critiques.

1. Ethics
In your manuscript you state that 'Our study did not need approval of an ethical committee'. Please can you clarify in the 'Methods' section of the manuscript whether the study was reviewed by the local ethics committee, who subsequently waived the need for ethical approval. If ethical review is not necessary for this type of study in the country where it was conducted, please reference the relevant legislation in the 'Methods' section of the manuscript.

Answer) We inserted sentence “The study protocol was reviewed by the local ethics committee, who subsequently waived the need for ethical approval.” in the Methods section.

2. Data access
Please also clarify whether the data used in your study is publicly available. Otherwise please state whether permission to access and use this data was obtained and from whom.

Answer) We inserted sentence “The data used in our study is not publicly available, but is obtained from Dr. EC Hwang with permission” in the acknowledgements section.

3. Authors' Contributions
Answer) SGK participated in the design of the study and performed the statistical analysis. ECH participated in the design of the study, performed the statistical analysis and draft the manuscript. IH, SHK, JGL, SHH, and JEH collected the clinical data. SIJ, TWK, DDK, JJK, and JC made critical revision of the manuscript for important intellectual content. SGK and ECH conceived of the study, and approved the final draft of the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final draft of the manuscript.

Thank you.

With best regards,
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