**Author's response to reviews**

**Title:** Hamartomas, teratomas and teratocarcinosarcomas of the head and neck: Report of 3 new cases with clinico-pathologic correlation, cytogenetic analysis, and review of the literature

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September 14, 2008

To:
Dr Mark Todd
Assistant Editor
BMC-series journals


Dear Dr Todd,

We are re-submitting our revised manuscript entitled “Hamartomas, teratomas and teratocarcinosarcomas of the head and neck: Report of three cases and review of the literature” as requested in your email of September 10 2008.

Comments to Reviewer 1:
1. We illustrated a case of sinonasal teratocarcinosarcoma with a new figure highlighting neuroectodermal component.

Comments to Reviewer 2:
1. The discussion has been significantly shortened, particularly the part concerning the origins of sinonasal teratocarcinosarcoma in relation to cytogenetic findings and it has been set in a broader context. Thus, unnecessary references, cited in the first version of the paper, have now been removed.
2. A recently published paper of Smith SL et al. (Arch Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg. 2008, 134:592-5) has been included in “Introduction” because of its clinical relevance to outcome of the patients with sinonasal teratocarcinosarcoma leading to corrections in our discussion in which we previously speculated that specific cytogenetic alterations might be responsible for aggressive clinical course of sinonasal teratocarcinosarcoma.

3. Several typos have been corrected.

4. References are now cited following the instructions and proposals of the journal.

We hope that these corrections will be satisfactory and the manuscript now can be accepted for publication.

Yours sincerely,

Semir Vranic, MD