Author's response to reviews

Title: Giant osteoclasts in patients under bisphosphonates

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear editorial board,

We are very thankful again to the reviewers remarks concerning our article. We are convinced that reporting this case-report in "BMC Clinical Pathology" will allow to reach a high number of clinical pathologists and increase their awareness on this particular osteoclast morphology. The right recognition of these non-resorbing giant osteoclasts in bone tissues from patients treated with bisphosphonates is essential because giant osteoclasts are normally associated with active bone resorption and might be misinterpreted as markers of increased bone turnover as seen in Paget’s disease of bone, hyperparathyroidism or bone cancer. Please find hereby our answers point-by-point to the reviewers comments. The manuscript has been corrected as much as possible in agreement to the reviewers remarks.

Point-by-point responses to reviewers

While authors has addressed most of the questions. The figure 1 of giant OC has been referred to case 1 and 2, which is not acceptable. Authors will need to present two panel of giant OC as they are two different cases.

We have modified the figure 1 which now shows only image of giant OC from patient 1 and we added a second figure (Figure 2) which provides an image of giant OC from patient 2.

In addition, authors need to provide the quantitative data on the number of giant OC that are not attached to bone surface.

The number of giant OC has been specified and added in the first part of the discussion as suggested by the reviewer. The number of normal OC has already been determined and mentioned in table 2 (expressed as OcN/BA). Note that OcN/BA only refers to OC that are associated with bone resorption.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Thank you. We also agree that reporting these findings will expand scientific knowledge on the mechanisms of action of Bps and allow bone pathologists to
better characterize these particular OC morphology. Our objective in publishing this article is to 1) increase pathologists awareness on these particular OC morphology for diagnosis purpose and 2) better understand the bisphosphonates mechanisms of action based on our description and what already published in the literature.

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being Published

A thorough language revision has already been made to better improve the english quality of this article.

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

No statistics are involved in this paper.