Author's response to reviews

Title: Prognostic value of KRAS genotype in metastatic colorectal cancer (MCRC) patients treated with intensive triplet chemotherapy plus bevacizumab (FIR-B/FOX) according to extension of metastatic disease

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Enclosed you’ll find the manuscript 1158812950717649 “Prognostic value of KRAS genotype in metastatic colorectal cancer (MCRC) patients treated with intensive triplet chemotherapy plus bevacizumab (F1r-B/FOx) according to extension of metastatic disease”, by Gemma Bruera et al., revised as requested.

A point-by-point response to the comments is described in this cover letter and has been provided in the revised manuscript, submitted in a marked up version that highlights the changes that we have made in a different colour.

Referee 2:

“My only consideration at present, regards the non-significant statistical differences in OS, PFS and OS in patients O/MM. I believe that it could be dependent by the relatively low number of cases. I think that this point deserves a small comment in the text.”

We modified the comment concerning prognosis of liver-limited compared to other/multiple metastatic disease in KRAS mutant MCRC patients in Discussion, page 16: “In KRAS mutant pts, prevalently harbouring c.35 G > A transversion (53.5%), integrated medical and surgical treatment failed to significantly increase PFS and OS in L-L compared to O/MM pts: median PFS was equivalent (11 months), in spite of 54% performed liver metastasectomies in L-L pts; median OS
was 39 and 19 months, respectively. These data should be further evaluated in a larger cohort of MCRC patients”.

More, we verified that all mentions of “pts” are referred to instead as “patients”, we provided a list of abbreviations (preceding the competing interests and authors’ contributions in the text), authors’ funding source, and acknowledgements. We edited the final version of the manuscript.

We thank very much for the contribution to further increase the relevance of our article for publication in BMC Medicine.

Sincerely,

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