Author's response to reviews

Title: Liver metastasis originating from colorectal cancer with macroscopic portal vein tumor thrombosis: a case report and review of the literature

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
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Dr. Michael Kidd
Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Medical Case Reports

Re: MS: 1976974437376302 “Liver metastasis originating from colorectal cancer with macroscopic portal vein tumor thrombosis: a case report and review of the literature” by Tomimaru Y et al.

Dear Michael Kidd,

In reference to your letter of June 30, 2010, we are pleased to learn that the editors are willing to give further consideration to our manuscript after appropriate revision.

Several concerns were raised by the referees. We tried to provide the best response to each criticism or recommendation. We also checked the entire text and revised certain sections as recommended by the referees.

We resubmitted the final revised manuscript marked with all the changes made during the revision process. Enclosed please also find our point-by-point response to the criticisms and suggestions raised by the referees. We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to the referees who identified areas of our manuscript that needed corrections or modification. We would like also to thank you for allowing us to resubmit a revised copy of the manuscript.

I hope that our manuscript is now acceptable for publication in Journal of Medical Case Reports.

Sincerely Yours,
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Response to the comments to a referee (Linda Leung)

Generally well written case report. It might be worth mentioning that the patient did not have any inherited and acquired thrombophilic predispositions.

Answer: We are grateful for the kind suggestion. Actually, the case did not have any inherited or acquired thrombophilic predispositions. As suggested by the referee, we added this comment in CASE PRESENTATION in the revised manuscript (page 3, line 20-21).

Response to the comments to a reviewer (Hilda Wong)

The rare incidence of macroscopic portal vein thrombosis associated with liver metastases from colorectal cancer is being increasingly reported. In addition to reporting such a case treated successfully surgically, the authors also summarized previously published cases which made the manuscript more informative. For the interest of the non-surgical readership of the journal, the authors could emphasize macroscopic portal vein thrombosis is not a contraindication to major liver surgery, and further discuss on general management issues including indication or contraindication of chemotherapy, hepatic arterial infusion, radioembolization and anticoagulation.

Answer: We are grateful for the useful comments. Today, some treatment options for colorectal liver metastasis have been established, but, of course, there is no consensus for the treatment for colorectal liver metastasis accompanying PVTT. As suggested by the referee, we can suggest at least that macroscopic PVTT is not a contraindication to liver surgery. These comments were added in DISCUSSION in the revised manuscript (page 5, line 24-31).