Author’s response to reviews

Title: A Patient with Acute Abdomen due to Metastatic Small Bowel Melanoma: a case report

Authors:

Georgios D Lianos Mr (georgiolianos@yahoo.gr)
Thomas Messinis Mr (tomessinis@yahoo.gr)
Rodamanthos Doumos Mr (broutos@yahoo.it)
Alexandra Papoudou-Bai Dr (apapoudou@gmail.com)
Christina D Bali Mrs (cbali03@yahoo.com)

Version: 7 Date: 2 July 2013

Author’s response to reviews: see over
Editor's comment:

The authors provided new histopathological images which show an ab extrinsico invasion of the intestinal wall by a neoplastic lesion. Unfortunately, again and in the present form, they are not in keeping with melanoma. In order to make a diagnosis of melanoma, the authors must display an hematoxylin-eosin image along with two immunohistochemical pictures testing both S100 and HMB-45 proteins, at least. With regard to the hematoxylin-eosin microphotographs they have included in their revised version, the normal staining should be pink (eosin) and blue (hematoxylin), and not brownish.

The above images (of good quality) are necessary in order to confirm the diagnosis of melanoma and therefore publish this article.

Author’s response

We are responding to edito’s comment as follow:

The histopathological diagnosis was malignant melanoma of small bowel. There was diffuse infiltration of the intestinal wall from atypical large neoplastic cells with abundant eosinophilic cytoplasm. Melanin pigmentation was observed in the neoplastic cells (fig.2a). Immunohistochemically, the tumour cells were positive for S-100 protein (fig 2b), HMB-45 (fig 2c), Melan A (fig 2d) and vimentin, whereas were negative for CD45/CLA and pan cytokeratin.