Author's response to reviews

Title: Destruction of the Skull from Intracranial Metastasis Arising From Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Lung: A Case Report

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editors and Peer Reviewers,

Thank you for considering our manuscript and for the suggestions made. We wish to address a number of concerns raised.

1. To address the concerns that our manuscript does not conform to the journal’s style we have added the patient’s ethnicity to the abstract section of the manuscript, we have replaced the term man with male to describe the patient’s sex in both the abstract and the case presentation and we have changed the header “case report” to “case presentation”.

2. In response to feedback from Dr Kostas Spiropoulos we have inserted a line in the case presentation section indicating that the patient had no history of trauma to the head.

3. In response to the first point raised by Dr Ioannis Dimitroulis the CT head demonstrates that the lesion is a malignant one with characteristic features including evidence of invasion into the brain parenchyma, bone and soft tissues. A biopsy was not performed, as the radiology opinion was that the CT provided definitive evidence that this was a malignant metastatic lesion and that no additional information would be gained from a more invasive procedure. We have included more information about the radiology findings in the case presentation section.

4. In response to the second point raised by Dr Ioannis Dimitroulis, we could not perform a series of X-Rays or CT scans to demonstrate where the lesion originated as the patient presented with the mass already containing intracranial and extracranial components. The CT scan images provided were the first images taken of the lesion. It was the opinion of the radiologist that
the lesion commenced intracranially, and is meningeal in origin, due to the size of the intracranial portion relative to the extracranial portion, shape of the lesion and pattern of invasion.

All changes to the manuscript have been underlined. I am happy to provide any further information or answer any questions at your request.

Regards,

Imran Kader