Author's response to reviews

Title: The predictive role of preoperative serum albumin levels in glioblastoma patients

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Version: 3 Date: 23 September 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor:

We submit our article entitled "The predictive role of preoperative serum albumin levels in glioblastoma patients" to BMC Cancer for publication.

Serum albumin level is a reliable and convenient marker of the nutritional status of patients, and has been identified as a predictive marker in glioblastoma. However, because of the recent wide application of standard radio-chemotherapy for the treatment of glioblastoma patients, the prognostic effect of preoperative serum albumin levels needs to be re-evaluated and the related mechanism should be further explored. In this study, we showed that serum albumin level is a prognostic factor for glioblastoma patients. Compared with other nutritional indicators, we demonstrated that the mechanism by which serum albumin levels predict clinical outcome is complex, not only because it is a nutritional indicator, but also because of its role in the inflammatory response. The interaction among albumin, IGFBP-2 and IL-6 may greatly affect clinical outcomes.

All authors are aware of and agree to the submission and they have all contributed to the work described sufficiently to be named as authors. Any person with an interest in the manuscript is aware of the submission and agrees to it. The authors have declared that no competing interests exist. The manuscript has not been previously published in whole or in part or submitted elsewhere for review.

Required revisions have been made: (1) Table 1-3 have been embedded at the end of the Microsoft Word document of the manuscript.

Thank you very much for your attention and consideration.
Sincerely yours

Anhua Wu