Author's response to reviews

Title: Concept and design of a nationwide prospective feasibility/efficacy/safety study of weekly paclitaxel for patients with pathologically confirmed anaplastic thyroid cancer (ATCCJ-PTX-P2)

Authors:

Naoyoshi Onoda (nonoda@med.osaka-cu.ac.jp)
Iwao Sugitani (isugitani@nms.ac.jp)
Takuya Higashiyama (higashiyama@kuma-h.or.jp)
Hisato Hara (harahisa@md.tsukuba.ac.jp)
Ken-ichi Ito (kenito@shinshu-u.ac.jp)
Makoto Kammori (kammori@kanaji.jp)
Kiminori Sugino (k-sugino@ito-hospital.jp)
Shinichi Suzuki (shsuzuki@fmu.ac.jp)
Kazuhisa Toda (kazuhisa.toda@jfc.or.jp)
Akira Yoshida (ayoshida@kcc.or.jp)
Akira Miyauchi (miyauchi@kuma-h.or.jp)

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1) For use with Study Protocol manuscripts (requesting ethics and funding proofs):

1. Ethical and Funding Approval Documentation
Before we can proceed with your submission, can you please forward copies of all ethical approval and funding approval for our records. These documents should be sent as email attachments to the following email address, BMCSeriesEditorial@biomedcentral.com.

We appreciated your sincere cooperation in reviewing our manuscript. Of course this protocol has been approved by the IRB of Osaka City University, Graduate School of Medicine. I attached files of Certificate of Approval and its translation. In addition, to Osaka City University, the protocol has been approved in every institute registered. The approval of each institute had been confirmed before the entrée of the patient. I have sent files of PDF documents concerning ethical approval and funding with their translation to the address above.

2. Funding
A study is considered to be externally funded if the authors have been awarded a grant for the study by a major funding body (e.g. governmental funding/award from a charitable foundation). If a study has not received external funding, then the study protocol will be sent for peer-review with a member of our Editorial Board. If a study has received funding/assistance from a commercial organization, this should be clearly stated in the 'competing interests' section of your manuscript, and the study protocol will be sent for peer-review by a member of our Editorial Board. Can you please confirm whether your study protocol has undergone peer-review by the funding body.

Thank you for the comment. As we have mentioned in the Acknowledgements, this study was supported in part by a Grant-in-Aid for Strategic Research of Osaka City University (Novel Priority Research B) to NO, and by a Research Grant of Non-political organization TODoc Network. Committee of Grant-in-Aid for Strategic Research of Osaka City University did not review the study protocol. Still, the IRB of the University did as above (#1). The members of NPO are the same as members of the protocol committee of this study. We established NPO to carry on clinical studies by ourselves. I would say that our study protocol has not undergone peer-review by funding body.

3. Study status
The protocol must be for a study that is ongoing. An 'ongoing' study is defined as one where the investigators are still collecting, or analyzing data. Can you please confirm what stage your study is currently at.
This study is ongoing. The enrolling period was closed, but the subjects are still on observation. The study period will be closed in March 2015 for analyse.

4. Related Articles
Can you please clarify whether any publications containing the results of this study have already been published or submitted to any journal. If so, can you please provide a list of the related articles.

The results or the data have not been published or submitted to any other journal.

2) Requesting copyediting before review:

After reading through your manuscript, we feel that the quality of written English needs to be improved before the manuscript can be considered further. We advise you to seek the assistance of a fluent English speaking colleague, or to have a professional editing service correct your language. Please ensure that particular attention is paid to the abstract.

We are so sorry for our poor English descriptions. We have asked English reviewing.