Author’s response to reviews

Title: Management of Brain Metastasis with Magnetic Resonance Imaging and Stereotactic Irradiation Attenuated Benefits of Prophylactic Cranial Irradiation in Patients with Limited-stage Small Cell Lung Cancer

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
August 4, 2015

Dr. Adilia Hormigo,
Associate Editor of BMC cancer,

Re: BMC cancer – Decision on Manuscript ID 3088891001428205

Dear Dr. Hormigo,

Thank you very much for your email dated July 31, 2015 regarding our manuscript together with the comments from the reviewer. We have attempted to address the questions raised by the reviewer and the editorial. Our-point-by-point responses to the reviewer’s and editorial comment are attached and we provide a highlight copy of the manuscript that shows the alterations that have been made with underline.

We believe that the manuscript has been improved satisfactorily and hope that it will be accepted for publication in BMC Cancer.

Yours sincerely,

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Dear Dr. Paul Rava,

Minor revisions.

1. **It needs to be clearly stated that a small retrospective study should never be practice changing when randomized evidence exists that provides large prospective data.**

   We deeply agreed with you that our retrospective study does not provide practice-changing data. We have added the following sentence regarding this limitation of our study to the Discussion section (page 11, line 204-205): “Considering these limitations, we must recognize that the results of our retrospective study are not practice-changing and further studies are needed to confirm our results”.
# Associate Editor

Dear Dr. Adilia Hormigo,

Editorial Request.

1. Please include the full names of all Ethics committees that approved the study at each participating center.

   As indicated, we modified the sentence at page 6, line 92-94, to “The study was approved by the Institutional Review Board of Hamamatsu University School of Medicine, Seirei Mikatahara General Hospital, Iwata City Hospital, and Shizuoka General Hospital.

2. Please take this opportunity to modify your title, if you with.

   We appreciate your suggestion. To make it more easily comprehensive, we changed the title to “Management of Brain Metastasis with Magnetic Resonance Imaging and Stereotactic Irradiation Attenuated Benefits of Prophylactic Cranial Irradiation in Patients with Limite-stage Small Cell Lung Cancer”.