Author’s response to reviews

Title: Efficacy and safety of afatinib in Chinese patients with EGFR-mutated metastatic non-small-cell lung cancer (NSCLC) previously responsive to first-generation tyrosine-kinase inhibitors (TKI) and chemotherapy: comparison with historical cohort using erlotinib

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Author’s response to reviews:

Professor Dafne Solera

Executive editor

BMC Cancer

Dear Prof. Solera,

Re: Resubmission of Original Research Article
Thank you very much for your expert review of our manuscript “Efficacy and safety of afatinib in Chinese patients with EGFR-mutated metastatic non-small-cell lung cancer (NSCLC) previously responsive to first-generation tyrosine-kinase inhibitors and chemotherapy: comparison with historical cohort using erlotinib”. I am now writing to provide my further detailed point-to-point responses to the comments made by the editors as elaborated below.

Editorial requests:

1 - Please provide CONSORT checklist: In accordance with BioMed Central editorial policies (http://www.biomedcentral.com/about/editorialpolicies#StandardsofReporting), could you please ensure your manuscript reporting adheres to CONSORT guidelines (http://www.consort-statement.org/) for reporting clinical trials. This is so your methodology can be fully evaluated and utilised. Can you please include a completed CONSORT checklist as an additional file when submitting your revised manuscript. We would also ask that you include a completed copy of the CONSORT flowchart for your study as a figure in your manuscript.

Reply:

Both the CONSORT checklist and the CONSORT flowchart have been added as additional files. Thank you very much for your comment.

2 - Please provide email addresses of all authors on title page.

Reply:

The email addresses of all authors have been added on the title page. Thank you very much.

3 - Please include an abbreviations section before Competing Interest section.
An abbreviations section before Competing Interest section has been added. Thank you very much.

4 - Please add the details and date of registration of the TRN at the end of the abstract.

Reply:

The details and date of registration of the TRN has been added at the end of the abstract. Thank you very much.

5 - Please revise the Methods section of your manuscript to include the full names of the ethics committees that approved your study. We recommend the following format: “This study was approved by the ethics committee of [xxx] Hospital [or University].”

Reply:

Thanks very much for your comment. The full names of the ethics committee that approved my study has been added in the Methods section.

6 - Please ensure that there are detailed authors’ contributions for all of the authors. Please include a statement in the Authors’ contributions section to the effect that all authors have read and approved the manuscript, and ensure that this is the case.

Reply:

A statement in the Authors contributions to the effect that all authors have read and approved the manuscript has been added. Thank you very much.

7 - Please check the images carefully to ensure no patient details are included.
Reply:

We have confirmed that no patient details are included in the images. Thank you very much for your gentle reminder.

All the revisions and changes are highlighted in the revised manuscript. I am looking forward to your favorable reply very soon.

Thank you very much once again for your expert review.

Yours sincerely,

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