Author’s response to reviews

Title: Surgical therapy of primary hepatic angiosarcoma

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Point-by-Point Reply to reviewers’ comments on the submitted manuscript:

Surgical therapy of primary hepatic angiosarcoma

(BSUR-D-18-00526R1)

All changes in the revised manuscript have been marked yellow.

Reviewer 1:

We thank the reviewer for the detailed comments.

1. This is a very small cohort of patients (9 patients in 15 years), treated with a relatively high morbidity (2/3) and major morbidity (1/3) achieving very low disease-free survival (5/9 of patients developed recurrence within 8 months after surgery) and overall survival. Therefore, even though there is probably no better option the authors should underline more in the discussion that we actually still don't know if surgery is any good for these patients and that surgeons should think very carefully in every single case taking into consideration tumor burden, patients condition and patients will, if surgery should be offered.
We have underlined the necessity to carefully consider whether liver surgery is appropriate in each individual case of PHA in the Discussion section (page 7, line 191)

2. In page 5 the authors say 5 patients had recurrence within 8 months, 2 patients developed recurrence within 3 months, and 3 patients had no recurrence at all. This makes 10 patients. Please check your numbers of better clarify.

Thank you for this comment, we have clarified number of patients in the results section (page 5, line 141)

3. Instead of table 1, please provide a table with all 9 patients including the variables of table 1 and additionally: type of complication, time of recurrence and time of death.

A new table with all 9 patients is provided (page 14) as suggested by the reviewer.

4. Please define postoperative morbidity: 30 days? 90 days?

Postoperative mortality is defined for 30- and 90-days (results section; page 5, line 129).

Reviewer 2:

We thank the reviewer the helpful comments.

1. On page 8, paragraph 1 in the discussion, the authors mention preoperative biopsies. These data should also be presented in the results section.

We have revised the manuscript and included the data regarding preoperative biopsy in the results section (page 4, line 116).