Author’s response to reviews

Title: A case report of Muir-Torre syndrome in a woman with breast cancer and MSI-Low skin squamous cell carcinoma

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Reviewer reports:

Reviewer #1: This brief report details a patient diagnosed with Muir-Torre syndrome. In the background the authors state that EPCAM causes LS. This is not correct and needs a better explanation - loss of EPCAM results in the epigenetic silencing of MSH2 and consequently associated with LS. After the ages reported in the text "years of age" should be included. The first report of breast cancer in LS was in 2001 and not in 2013.

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Reviewer #1: This brief report details a patient diagnosed with Muir-Torre syndrome. In the background the authors state that EPCAM causes LS. This is not correct and needs a better explanation - loss of EPCAM results in the epigenetic silencing of MSH2 and consequently associated with LS.
Thank you for your remarks.

We have corrected in the text (BACKGROUND section):

“HNPCC, also known as Lynch syndrome (LS), is an autosomal dominant tumor predisposition for colorectal (CRC), endometrium, stomach, pancreas, ovarian, ureter and renal pelvis, and biliary tract cancers, caused by a germline mutation in one of the mismatch repair (MMR) genes MLH1, MSH2, MSH6, PMS2. Deletions of the 3’ end of the EPCAM/TACSTD1 gene lead to MSH2 promoter hypermethylation, causing LS.”

* Reviewer #1: After the ages reported in the text "years of age" should be included.

We have added “years of age” when suitable in the text.

* Reviewer #1: The first report of breast cancer in LS was in 2001 and not in 2013.

We would respectfully like to point that we are not sure about this part because we wrote in the article: “In 2013, Vasen et al. [14], a group of European experts, published revised guidelines for the clinical management of LS. They discussed the results of Barrow et al. [15] and Engel et al. [16], who reported an increased risk of BC in Lynch Syndrome after the age of 40 years, with the highest risk in MLH1 carriers.”

We here presented only that in 2013 a panel of experts gathered in order to discuss and present the revised guidelines for the clinical management of LS.

Shall we rewrite this sentence if it is misleading?