Author's response to reviews

Title: Alveolar Rhabdomyosarcoma of the Anterior Mediastinum with Vessel Invasion in a 4 month old boy: a case report

Authors:

Simon C.Y. Chow Dr (wwjdsimon@gmail.com)
Randolph H.L. Wong Dr (wonhl1@surgery.cuhk.edu.hk)
Innes Y.P. Wan Dr (innesw@surgery.cuhk.edu.hk)
Wan Song Prof (swan@surgery.cuhk.edu.hk)
Malcolm J Underwood Prof (mjunderwood@surgery.cuhk.edu.hk)
Calvin S.H. Ng Prof (calvinng@surgery.cuhk.edu.hk)

Version: 3
Date: 14 June 2015

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

We highly appreciate the constructive comments from the reviewers and yourself, and have revised the manuscript accordingly. Changes are marked in RED in the manuscript.

Below, we shall reply the reviewers’ comments point by point.

Reply to Reviewer 1

1) We have adopted the reviewer’s suggestion to add the pathological and molecular findings of our patient, supporting the diagnosis of alveolar rhabdomyosarcoma. A few sentences on the pathological description of the patient’s resected tumor in the case presentation were added to address this issue.

2) Figure 2, illustrating the pathological findings, is added with suitable description as legend.

3) We have added an additional author, Professor To Ka Fai from the department of pathology to the authors list, for his input in the revised version of the manuscript.

Reply to Reviewer 2

1) We agree with the reviewer on the need to provide a brief overview on the clinical features of reported cases of mediastinal rhabdomyosarcoma. A short paragraph briefly describing mediastinal rhabdomyosarcomas has been included.

2) We thank the reviewer’s suggestion to highlight the diagnostic/prognostic significance of PAX3-FOXO1 in alveolar rhabdomyosarcoma. A few sentences describing the translocation involved in the expression of this transcription factor have been added to the discussion section. We have also included the finding of a latest meta-analysis concerning the prognostic significance of PAX3-FOXO1 gene for the reviewer’s reference. The new referenced article is numbered 11.

3) We thank the reviewer for pointing out the importance of appropriate labeling of figure 3. As a result, we have labeled the figure accordingly to facilitate orientation and appreciation of the mass.

We have updated our reference list, as reference 11 has been included in the manuscript for publication. We highly appreciate the comments from the reviewers. We would like to resubmit the revised manuscript for your kind consideration.

Best regards

Dr. Calvin Ng