Author’s response to reviews

Title: Dermatofibrosarcoma Protuberans: A case report describing the use of neoadjuvant imatinib for treatment of an uncommon breast malignancy

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Author’s response to reviews:

Thank you for considering our case report entitled, “Dermatofibrosarcoma Protuberans: A case report describing the use of neoadjuvant imatinib for treatment of an uncommon breast malignancy”. After our initial submission, we were asked to make some changes to better reflect the CARE guidelines; these changes have been made (detailed below) and we now re-submit our case report to your journal. If accepted, we believe our paper will help advance the knowledge of this cancer and provide insight on how this treatment can benefit future patients.

- In our patient’s case presentation, information has been added describing her past medical history, family history, and social history (See 1st paragraph in Case Presentation section).

- A physical exam that was performed upon her encounter at the tertiary hospital has been added to the case presentation (See 2nd paragraph of Case Presentation section).

- Figure 2 now only contains two pathologic images showing the spindle cell proliferation in the biopsy specimen and the staining pattern with positivity to CD 34. This has also been edited in the text when referencing these images (See Figure 2).

- Side effects and overall tolerance to imatinib by our patient was added at the bottom of the case discussion (See paragraph 2 of Case Presentation section).

- A paragraph about the strengths and limitations identified in our patient’s case was added to the end of the discussion (See paragraph 8 of Discussion section).
- A table outlining six case reports where neoadjuvant imatinib was used has been added. This table outlines the disease site, response to treatment, and outcome reported.

Thank you for your consideration,

Matthew McGee MD and Sneha Phadke DO, on behalf of all the authors