

## AUTHOR'S RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS COMMENT

Reviewer Comment Number	Content of Reviewer's Comment	Author's Response Where possible, edits were done <u>in blue</u> for easy identification by Reviewer
A1	The complete name and number of supportive foundations should be given	This was done.
A2	Abstract	This was re-titled in capitals
A3	Please rewrite Materials and Methods as unstructured	This was done.
A4	Please add 5-10 key words	This was done.
A5	Please mark citation in accordance with format.	This was done throughout the manuscript.
	Abstract: The authors point out in "Settings/Location" that "Departments of medicine and radiation oncology in two separate teaching hospitals". As only one patient was included, could the authors better explain this statement?	Explanation: Shared clinical resources. Because hematology-oncology department at the Providence VA Hospital does not have a radiation oncology service and is physically across the street from a licensed department radiation oncology, the two departments work together. This patient was treated jointly between the 2 academic departments. The Center on Translational Medicine Research in Foster RI supplied high potency sucralfate.
	Introduction: The introduction section seems to be too long, and may be slightly shortened.	This was done. The Introduction was shortened from 667 words to 639 words. Hoping for the reviewer's acceptance, substantial portions were retained to update readers unfamiliar with the field. Additionally the beginning of the introduction was altered to accommodate literature reports of the involvement of cytokines and growth factors in the pathobiology of mucositis and cited interactions of sucralfate with growth factors. This inclusion required the citation of 3 additional references which were inserted at the beginning of Reference list. And required re-numbering of references throughout manuscript. All changes were done <u>in blue</u> .

	<b>Discussion: page 15: I would suggest better connecting the sentence "These make up the mucosal immuno-neuronal physiology that is indirectly affected by HPS on contact" with previous or latter paragraphs.</b>	This was done.
	<b>Red-Box Comments throughout manuscript.</b>	Each red-box comment was addressed throughout manuscript with changes made in blue including the request for inclusion of PMID or DOI numbers at the end of references. This was done in blue.
	<b>Please write the COMMENTS section here. See format in attachment file-revision policies.</b>	This was done at the end of manuscript on page 17 in blue.