

May 8, 2015

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: Borazanci_18039_edited.doc).

Title: Adenosquamous Carcinoma of the Pancreas: molecular characterization of 23 patients along with a literature review

Authors: Erkut Borazanci, Sherri Z Millis, Ron Korn, Haiyong Han, Clifford J Whatcott, Zoran Gatalica, Michael T Barrett, Derek Cridebring, and Daniel D Von Hoff

Name of Journal: World Journal of [Gastrointestinal Oncology](#)

ESPS Manuscript NO: 18039

We thank the Reviewers for their very helpful suggestions. The manuscript has been improved according to their suggestions, as indicated.

Reviewer 1

1. The authors showed Figure 1 as a typical pathological image of adenosquamous of the pancreas. However, stars and arrows are not shown the typical image of adeno and squamous components. Please delete these stars and arrows. In addition, Figure 1B is not necessary.

We have retained the stars and arrows to focus the reader's attention on the two components, and we also feel Figure 1B is necessary, as we are showcasing a different case with tissue from tail of the pancreas.

2. The authors showed a contour of the pancreas as a white outline with a small focus of necrosis. Please put the arrow to indicate it in the panel M-O of Figure 2. In addition, the image of PET negative (panel Q) is not necessary.

We have updated Figure 2 to reflect the recommendations regarding the addition of arrows directing the reader to the focus of tumor necrosis in the pancreas on MRI. However, we believe that the negative PET scan is a valuable addition to the montage of images in order to bring home the point that there can be variability in PET activity. As such, careful scrutiny of all available diagnostic imaging scans is needed to fully evaluate this malignancy. However we have added the following language to the figure legend which highlights the atypical nature of this PET: "The corresponding FDG PET/CT (Panel P and Q) is unusual in that it shows the mass is not hypermetabolic unlike most Adenosquamous Pancreas Carcinomas"

Reviewer 2:

The English language should be improved.

The authors noted that reviewer #1 stated “*Almost all manuscript is well-written.*”, in contrast to reviewer #2. As reference, the manuscript was written by co-authors with English as a first language. In advance of resubmission, review by an associate faculty of English was performed, to confirm clarity and grammatical correctness. Minor edits were identified and corrected and some wording was modified so that content would be more concise.

Additionally, all formatting and additional components requested by the editorial staff have been added to the document, and all changes have been highlighted through the ‘track changes’ feature of Microsoft Word. Those changes can be accepted, for final formatting.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the World Journal of [Gastrointestinal Oncology](#)

Sincerely,

Erkut Borazanci

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