

Dear Mr. editor-in-chief,

We warmly thank the reviewers. Please find hereby in red the answers we have made.

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hematology

ESPS manuscript NO: 21913

Title: A retrospective study of a cohort of adult patients with hematological malignancies in a tropical area

Reviewer's code: 02097364

Reviewer's country: Japan

Science editor: Xue-Mei Gong

Date sent for review: 2015-08-01 17:34

Date reviewed: 2015-08-04 18:59

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a narrative review of 87 cases of the patients with hematological malignancies in French Guiana. Although the study scale is small, this is an epidemiologically informative paper with reasonable discussions on the hematological diseases in tropical areas.

Answer.

We have added at the beginning of the discussion the following sentence (in red):

“Discussion

This study reports on 87 patients with hematological malignancies (and two with Kaposi sarcomas) who were managed during a three-year period at the main hospital in French Guiana. **However the study scale is small**, but it provides several interesting insights that are of considerable relevance in terms of the provision of medical care.”

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Hematology

ESPS manuscript NO: 21913

Title: A retrospective study of a cohort of adult patients with hematological malignancies in a tropical area

Reviewer's code: 03008923

Reviewer's country: Greece

Science editor: Xue-Mei Gong

Date sent for review: 2015-08-01 17:34

Date reviewed: 2015-10-18 07:14

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

It is an interesting retrospective study regarding hematological malignancies in french guiana. The study also reflects the problems the hematologists face in the daily practice.

Answer.

We have added as final consideration of the discussion the following sentence: **“Finally the study reflects the problems the hematologists face in the daily practice in this area.”**

I have also checked the English language.

Please find hereby also the statements required for a retrospective study that are included in the manuscript (methods chapter).

1.7 Institutional review board statement. Any article describing a study (basic research, clinical research, and case report) involving human and/or animal subjects is required to have the institutional review board (IRB) name, whether institutional (part of the author(s)' academic/medical institution, such as the Oak Grove Children's Hospital Institutional Review Board) or commercial/independent/private (contracted for-profit organizations, such as the ClinicCare Coalition for Human Rights Institutional Review Board), stated explicitly on the title page. In addition, a copy of any ethical approval document(s)/letter(s) or waiver should be provided to the BPG in PDF format.

Sample wording: The study was reviewed and approved by the [Name of Institution or Organization] Institutional Review Board.

Answer:” The entire 594 patient study was the subject of a thesis for an MD degree (LB), and it was reviewed and approved by the University of French Guiana and West Indies Medical School Institutional Review Board.”



Division de la Sclolarité

à

Madame Laure BIANCO
S/C de Monsieur le Doyen de la
Faculté de Médecine
Campus de Fouillole

N/Réf. : DS/MLR/n° 2014- 0 2 2 7

Pointe-à-Pitre, le 24 février 2014

Objet : Soutenance de thèse de
3ème Cycle de Médecine

Monsieur le Doyen de la Faculté de Médecine m'a fait tenir votre lettre du 18 février 2014 par laquelle vous sollicitez l'autorisation de soutenir votre thèse de 3ème cycle de médecine.

J'ai l'honneur de vous faire connaître que je vous autorise à soutenir votre thèse à l'Université des Antilles et de la Guyane.

Vous voudrez bien prendre l'attache des services de votre UFR quant aux modalités d'organisation de cette soutenance.

La Présidente de l'Université
Pour la Présidente de l'UFR
Le Directeur
Corinne MENCE-CASTER
Gaston BELFORT

1.8 Informed consent statement. Any research article describing a study (clinical research and case report) involving humans should contain a statement in the title page clearly stating that all involved persons (subjects or legally authorized representative) gave their informed consent (written or verbal, as appropriate) prior to study inclusion. In general, the BPG requires that any and all details that might disclose the identity of the subjects under study should be omitted or anonymized. In the rare situation that a study participant's identifiable information is crucial to the case presentation, the statement of informed consent is absolutely necessary, unless the participant is deceased. In addition, a copy of any approval document(s)/letter(s) or waiver should be provided to the BPG in PDF format.

Sample wording: All study participants, or their legal guardian, provided informed written consent prior to study enrollment

Waiver of informed consent for human study subjects may be justifiable under certain rare and specific conditions, such as for a trial with demonstrated minimal risk or cases of emergency care. Authors may petition BPG for waiver of informed consent, but there is no guarantee that the

petition will be granted. In general, BPG favors the requirement of informed consent for all reports of information (anonymized or identifiable) and reserves the right to refuse publication of such if informed consent was not obtained.

Answer: “We did not obtain individual informed consent; we used current hospital medical files; all the data presented were rendered anonymous and the chance of patient identification was extremely low.”

1.9 Conflict-of-interest statement. *A conflict-of-interest statement is required for all article and study types. In the interests of transparency and helping reviewers to assess any potential bias in a study’s design, interpretation of its results or presentation of its scientific/medical content, the BPG requires all authors of each paper to declare any conflicting interests (including but not limited to commercial, personal, political, intellectual or religious interests) in the title page that are related to the work submitted for consideration of publication. In addition, reviewers are required to indicate any potential conflicting interests they might have related to any particular paper they are asked to review, and a copy of signed statement should be provided to the BPG in PDF format.*

Sample wording: *[Name of individual] has received fees for serving as a speaker, a [position; such as consultant and/or an advisory board member] for [name(s) of organization(s)]. [Name of individual] has received research funding from [name(s) of organization(s)]. [Name of individual] is an employee of [name(s) of organization(s)]. [Name of individual] owns stocks and/or shares in [name(s) of organization(s)]. [Name of individual] owns patent [patent identifier information (including patent number, two-letter country code, and kind code) and a brief description].*

Answer: the following statement is included in the title page:

“Conflicts of interest: the authors have no conflict of interest to declare.”

1.10 Data sharing statement. Basic research and clinical research studies require a data sharing statement. The data sharing statement will be provided in the title page, and will be presented in the form as shown in the sample below. In addition, a copy of the signed statement should be provided to the BPG in PDF format.

Sample wording: *Technical appendix, statistical code, and dataset available from the corresponding author at [email address or URL]. Participants gave informed consent for data sharing [or ...consent was not obtained but the presented data are anonymized and risk of identification is low... or consent was not obtained but the potential benefits of sharing these data outweigh the potential harms because...]*. If no other data, please state: No additional data are available.

Answer: "We did not obtain individual informed consent; we used current hospital medical files; all the data presented were rendered anonymous and the chance of patient identification was extremely low." No additional data are available.

Looking forward to receiving the final acceptance of the manuscript
Sincerely yours.



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