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Name of Journal: *World Journal of Methodology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 26440

Manuscript Type: Diagnostic Advances

Dear Editor:

Thank you again for your consideration of our manuscript by the World Journal of Methodology. We have reviewed the comments from the reviewers and have the following response to their specific comments. Our responses are in boldface.

Reviewer 00723142: Nice Review of a rare clinical scenario A Retrospective analysis with limitations Clinical stage not available in 4 cases Time period of these cases not mentioned Appears to have an aggressive course.

**The reviewer correctly observes certain limitations of the case presentations which, though regrettable, are typical issues encountered in retrospective studies such as ours.**

Reviewer 00209021: The manuscript is well-written but adds limited new data to the field. The study can be published for educational purposes. Minor criticism: The headings must be on top of the tables not at the bottom.

**The reviewer's comments are appreciated. However, it should be noted that very few cases of CD4+ diffuse large B-cell lymphoma have been reported in the literature and therefore a more systematic review of multiple cases with comparison to examples previously reported in the literature appears warranted. The headings are modified in the revised version of the manuscript.**

Reviewer 02446446: Comments to authors: The manuscript of "CD4-positive diffuse large B-cell lymphoma: a variant with aggressive clinical potential" is very interesting & important topic for Pathologists and oncologists, as CD4 expression in DLBCL raises questions of lineage commitment and lineage fidelity in Non-Hodgkin's Lymphomas. The important of your results which explained the pathogenesis of

aberrant T-cell antigen expression in DLBCLs lies away from its identification as a biological curiosity or its role in helping us to understand lymphomagenesis. There are practical implications as well. The recognition of T-cell antigen expression in B-NHLs is important to avoid diagnostic errors of T-cell malignancy while interpretation immunohistochemistry and flow cytometry results. Finally, based on your data of DLBCLs expressing CD4, it appears that at least such a subset of lymphoma may behave aggressively. The manuscript is very well written and I have no issues with this paper. Only one minor change should be made: the quality & resolution of figure 1&2 are poor. Please replace by better pictures.

**Higher quality images have been substituted in the revised manuscript.**

**Also, we have included the other requested supporting documents. This was our first time using iThenticate software, and it is unclear to us whether we have included the appropriate information you desire. We used the broadest search parameters, which likely skewed the similarity index upward. Not surprisingly, there were matches for sections of the abstract (which was published in part in a clinical proceedings issue of Laboratory Investigation – the manuscript has not been submitted for publication elsewhere) and for a number of the references (we included the bibliography in the analysis). If you would like any other data from us, please let us know.**

Thank you again for your consideration.

Sincerely,