

22<sup>th</sup> of November 2012

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the revised manuscript in Word format (file name asrih.doc).

**Title: Alpha-fetoprotein: a controversial prognostic biomarker for small hepatocellular carcinoma**

**Author:** Mohamed Asrih, Sébastien Lenglet, François Mach, Fabrizio Montecucco

The following modifications (highlighted in red in the text file) have been made to the manuscript regarding the reviewers' suggestions:

- The main title has been adapted to the requested size (less than 12 words)
- The postal code in the address of the corresponding author has been added
- Additional key words from Medicus reflecting content of this study have been added
- The references have been adapted to the required form: names of all authors and DOI have been added. For four references that have not been indexed by PubMed, a printed copy of the first page of the full reference has been added at the end of the manuscript.

Sincerely yours,

Fabrizio Montecucco, MD, PhD

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