

Response to reviewers' comments

ESPS manuscript NO: 33219

Title: Immunophenotypic signature of primary Glioblastoma Multiforme: A rare case of extended progression free survival

Comments to Authors by Reviewer 1

The case presented by Gandhi et. al., is interesting, thoroughly studied and well documented, my only suggestion is in regard to the title: This case is not a "rare" case; the survival free of tumor was 18 months, only marginally superior from the current media of 14.6 months. I think that the title should change from ...“A rare case...” to “...in a case...”

Response to Reviewer 1

It is brought to kind notice that the maximum PFS documented in literature is 14.6 months whereas in the present case it is substantial with reference to GBM. But taking the reviewer's recommendation, the word **rare** has been deleted from the title.

Comments to Authors by Reviewer 2

Some of concerns that must be addressed-

- 1) The format of this manuscript should be changed because the Result section was mixed with some description of experimental methods or procedures. These different parts can be separated in order to easily follow up the description of the data.
- 2) English writing needs to be improved, including Abstract and Discussion.
- 3) All the initials must be written in full names as they appeared at the first time.
- 4) It is unclear whether these serum levels of inflammatory factors were measured prior to or post operation/drug treatment. This information is very important in the prognosis of this disease and/or evaluation of drug efficacy.
- 5) Figure 1. Add arrows to indicate where the lesion is located.
- 6) Explain what the controls are in Figure 2 and 3. These values were derived from normal subjects or adjacent benign tissue.
- 7) Authors mentioned that A parallel increase in values of IL6 with that of hTERT ($p=0.0286$) in our case.... It is not clear whether the p value indicates the correlation between IL-6 and hTERT. If yes, how this calculation can be done from one case?

Response to Reviewer 2

- 1) The format of this manuscript has been changed as per suggestion, with all experimental procedures defined separately and the Results section dealt with together.
- 2) The Abstract and Discussion sections have been rewritten.
- 3) All the initials have been written in full names as they appeared for the first time.
- 4) We have taken pre-operative blood samples for the evaluation of inflammatory factors.
- 5) In Figure 1, the lesion location has been marked with a red arrow.
- 6) In Figure 2 non-malignant brain tissue collected from subjects undergoing surgery for reasons other than brain tumor served as controls. Serum samples of healthy subjects served as control in Figure 3.

7) Yes, p value indicates the correlation between IL-6 and hTERT of GBM group taken as baseline reference and the values of our case extrapolated in this set.