

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your e-mail for the decision about our manuscript. We have revised the manuscript accordingly. The revised places were highlighted by yellow. Here are our responses to the reviewers' comments.

Reply to reviewer 1:

1. We are pretty much aware that PTC's have good prognosis but if you can provide the survival rates for early detection of SCC, it would probably add more importance to the FNAC and the other additional radiological and immuno-histochemical analysis.

Answer: Thank you for your worthwhile suggestion. We have extensively looked up the literatures about mortality rate of SCC. The survival rate of SCC diagnosed in early stage differs a lot from that of the late stage. The survival rate of patients with early-diagnosed HNSCs can be as high as 75%–80%; however, most patients are not diagnosed until the late stage with a long-term survival rate of only 35%. The difference indicates the increasing utilization of FNAC. We have revised the manuscript accordingly. Please see the revision for the changes.

2. Among limitations of FNAC you can also include how FNAC's cant preserve the histological architecture

Answer: Thank you for your helpful suggestion. We have added this in the limitation of FNAC in the part of discussion. The limits of cytological diagnosis can be defined, including limited cell smear specimens and less preservation of the histological architecture because of the small amount of aspired cells. More specifically, specimens obtained by FNA showed more cellular features than histological architecture. Please review the changes.

3. Under Chief Complaints and medical history you can change the sentence to "He mentioned a past medical history of hyperthyroidism and has been receiving the medication for the condition for over 10 years" or "The patient presented a past medical history of hyperthyroidism and has been receiving the medication for the condition for over 10 years" If you can please also mention what thyroid medication was he on I haven't seen anywhere on the clinical case of taking the patient's consent so could you please provide it as well.

Answer: Thank you for your thoughtful suggestion. This sentence has been revised accordingly. And we have supplement the medical history with his thyroid medication. The patient mentioned a past medical history of hyperthyroidism and has been receiving the medication for the condition for over 10 years (propylthiouracil 50 mg once every other day). Please see the revision for the changes.

Reply to reviewer 2:

Good article, that confirm the utility of FNAC in the diagnosis of neck masses.

Answer: Thank you for your positive comments. We are greatly encouraged by your comments. We hope that our case can give valuable information for clinical work.

We hope this will make it more acceptable for publication. Thank you and all the reviewers for the kind advice.

Sincerely yours,
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