

The manuscript entitled "Primary small cell neuroendocrine carcinoma in the right root of tongue: A case report and review of the literature" has some problems to be solved before considered for publication. 1. Does "the root of the tongue" mean "the base of the tongue"? It seems to be located on the posterior region of the tongue in figure 1. If so, the authors should use "the base of the tongue" instead of "the root of the tongue" because the former is more popular than the latter. And this area belongs to the oropharynx, not the oral cavity. Neuroendocrine carcinoma occurs in the pharynx not so rarely than in the oral cavity, I think. 2. It seems the lymph node enlargement is located in the upper jugular area, not in the submandibular region. 3. There are some uncommon words in the text. Please consider changing them. "activity" → "mobility" "inhomogeneous" → "heterogeneous" "homolateral" → "ipsilateral" 4. The sentences as below should be confirmed. "The diagnosis of "small cell endocrine carcinoma with cervical lymph node metastases in contralateral leveled. The diagnosis of "s" was confirmed by postoperative pathology." 5. According to the WHO classification of tumors of the digestive system 2019, neuroendocrine tumors are classified into low, intermediate, and high grade stratified by number of mitoses or Ki-67 index and neuroendocrine carcinoma are defined as high grade neuroendocrine neoplasms with Ki-67 >20%. The corresponding tumors in the lung are small cell carcinoma and large cell neuroendocrine carcinoma. On the other hand, according to the WHO classification of head and neck tumors 2017, NEN are classified into three categories; well: minimal atypia, low mitotic rate, no necrosis; moderate: more atypia, intermediate mitotic rate, focal necrosis; poor (small and large cell neuroendocrine carcinoma): high mitotic rate and severe necrosis. Please confirm these definitions in your text. 6. The reported case in this paper underwent surgery. Please describe the necessity of surgery for this case.

Thank you for your affirmation and correction of our study. We have already read the review carefully. According to your comments and questions, we have revised and answered them one by one as follows (the revised parts in the manuscript are marked in red):

1. The tumor was in the right posterior tongue.
2. The lymph node enlargement was in the contralateral upper jugular area.
3. The uncommon words have been replaced.
4. The sentence has been revised.
5. The classification and definition of neuroendocrine carcinoma according to the WHO classification of head and neck tumors 2017 are given in the manuscript.
6. The importance and necessity of surgery in this case are supplemented in the manuscript.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely

Zhihong Zhang