

7<sup>th</sup> of December 2019

Dear Editor,

We would like to sincerely thank the reviewers for taking the time to appraise our manuscript with the title: "*A systematic review of yttrium-90 radioembolization for unresectable hepatic metastases of breast cancer*". The first reviewer has raised some interesting points which we have now addressed and we believe that the paper now meets the journal's standards for acceptance.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Feretis MBCHB MRCS

Response to 1<sup>st</sup> reviewer's comments:

- **Reference 1. Old epidemiologic data.** We have now updated the reference with an up to date one in the revised manuscript.

-**Major concerns:** 1. **The high heterogeneity among studies and the lack of randomized controlled trials** 2. **Interpretation of the data is limited by the use of different criteria [World Health Organization (WHO) vs. Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumours (RECIST)] in the studies included** 3. **Differences between studies regarding the type of spheres used to deliver the treatment locally, the variable radiation dose, variable presence of extrahepatic disease, previous chemotherapy and the length of follow-up.** The above points raised by the reviewer are highlighted in the final section of the discussion in our manuscript as limitations of the findings reported in the systematic review.