

Date (13-4-2013)

To: Dr. Jin-Lei Wang

Editor of World Journal of Clinical Oncology

From: Dr. Samer Sawalhi: Assistant Professor-Department of Surgery-Permanent researcher in the Centre of Genetics and Inherited Diseases-College of Medicine-Taibah University/Kingdom of Saudi Arabia- E-mail (drsawalhi@yahoo.com).Tel/ no +966596832442/P.O Box (30001)

Re: Manuscript (2634): "Behavior of advanced gastrointestinal stromal tumor in a patient with Von-Recklinghausen disease: Case Report."

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Dear Dr. Jin-Lei Wang

We appreciate the opportunity to revise our manuscript entitled "Behavior of advanced gastrointestinal stromal tumor in a patient with Von-Recklinghausen disease: Case Report" for publication in the *World Journal of Clinical Oncology*. We have highlighted changes to the text in yellow and answered each point below. We hope you will find it suitable for the readership of your journal.

Response to Reviewer:

1. In ABSTRACT SECTION/AIM:It would be better stated that the authors DESCRIBE (not ANALYZE) the behaviour.

- We have re-formatted the abstract and expanded its content to fulfill this requirement.

2. In CASE REPORT SECTION: the post-resection time interval of the follow-up schedule should be clarified.

*- We thank the reviewer for suggesting this important detail and have added more description to the text on page 5 at the end of the "Case Report" section.*

3. In DISCUSSION SECTION:

a. The criteria for considering this case as HIGH RISK should be in more detail.

*- This definition has been expanded on page 7.*

b. A thorough analysis of the decision to use Imatinib post-operatively in this particular case is needed together with the appropriate data from relative studies or guidelines. Alternative approaches or treatments that may exist would also enrich the manuscript.

*- We have added a more complete description of the rationale for this treatment and suggested alternative approaches on pages 7-8.*

c. Reference "11" is not ANDREA et al. but MARRARI et al.

*- We apologize for our oversight in the references – they have been corrected throughout.*

d. A more detailed analysis is needed for the use of mutational analysis and its role in decision making according to current data and guidelines.

*- We agree that a more in-depth mutational analysis will be required to influence individualized treatment plans, however, our report emphasizes the important role that mutational analysis can provide and can serve as a launching point to define more expanded protocols for personalized therapy.*