



Reply to “Was capsule penetration of locally advanced renal cell carcinoma associated with recurrence in patients undergoing curative surgery?”

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DEAR EDITOR,

We appreciate Miss Chou's comments to our article.^{1,2} It is our mistake not to revise the Discussion section after consultation with a statistical specialist. It is locally advanced RCC with Fuhrman grade 3 or 4, rather than capsule penetration, was significantly associated with recurrence after curative surgery. Positive surgical margin and adjuvant targeted therapy failed to reach statistical significance in the chi-square test. Though higher pathological T stage was significant in the chi-square test and univariate cox regression analysis, it could not achieve significance in the followed multivariate cox regression analysis. We really appreciated your detailed reading of our article.

We did not exclude 22 patients with adjuvant targeted therapy. They received sunitinib after nephrectomy in the setting of clinical trial. The results of these clinical trials published later after the inclusion period of our present study. For example, in the ASSURE study, the adjuvant targeted therapy with sunitinib did not show improvement for DFS.³ In S-TRAC study, adjuvant targeted therapy in locally advanced RCC did not prolong overall survival significantly, and severe toxicity was observed in over

60% of patients.⁴ Moreover, the application of adjuvant targeted therapy did not make a statistical difference with chi-square test. Therefore, we did not think it is necessary to exclude these patients from our analysis. Thank you for your comments again.

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