

LETTER TO EDITORS

(AUGUST 16, 2016)

RESPONSE TO THE LETTER TO EDITORS CONCERNING “VALIDITY OF MESOTHELIN IN OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE PRACTICE”

Dear Editor,

We would like to thank the authors of the letter for their very precise and thorough interest in our work and constructive discussion.

In regard to the interpretation of statistical results: the control group used for statistical calculations of the parameters of diagnostic validity, the results of which were presented in the article, did not include patients with any other pleural and pulmonary parenchymal diseases or pathological findings (pleural hyalinosis, asbestosis, other malignancies, etc.) [1]. This was done to prevent some possible misleading and inaccurate results and to make the statistical analysis clear and targeted in terms of evaluating the diagnostic validity of soluble mesothelin-related peptides (SMRPs) exclusively for the diagnosis of malignant mesothelioma. Therefore, the numbers used for the original statistical analysis which lead to the correct published results vary from the numbers presented in the contingency table calculated by the authors of the letter.

The authors express their regret that the formulation of the “Results” section has lead to some uncertainties and do hope that this answer explains the questions which have been raised and thank for the interest in their published work once more.

Key words:

Malignant mesothelioma, Mesothelin, Asbestos, Validity, Occupational exposure, Diagnostic test

REFERENCES

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Petra Smolková¹, Marie Nakládalová¹,
and Jana Zapletalová²

Palacký University and University Hospital Olomouc,
Olomouc, Czech Republic

Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

¹ Department of Occupational Medicine

² Department of Medical Biophysics

Corresponding author: P. Smolková

Palacký University and University Hospital Olomouc
Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Department of Occupational Medicine

I. P. Pavlova 6

779 00 Olomouc, Czech Republic

(e-mail: smolkova.p@gmail.com)