

# Review of: "Advancements in the Detection and Treatment of Rare ALK Fusion Mutations in Hepatocellular Carcinoma: A Case Report and Literature Review"

Camillo Porta<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> University of Bari

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Author here reports on a case of ALK-fused HCC carcinoma, discussing implications of identifying these rare cases for diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis.

Here are my comments, leading to an overall recommendation of "MAJOR REVISION."

## MAJOR POINTS

1. Case information - The diagnosis of metastatic HCC was made from a biopsy of a lung mass. However, the Author neither even mentioned the presence of a liver tumor nor described any CT scan of the abdomen. This should be amended to confirm the correctness of the diagnosis of HCC. Otherwise, one could consider this neoplasm a much more common ALK-rearranged NSCLC ...
2. The Authors should add both some CT images (ideally, showing the liver tumor - see also above) and histological/IHC/FISH images.

## MINOR POINTS

1. Introduction - The Author correctly stated that ALK fusion mutations are well documented in other malignancies, such as non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). First, I would suggest using, instead of "ALK fusion mutations," the more correct term "ALK rearrangements"; second, I would also suggest mentioning, among tumors with ALK rearrangements, renal cell carcinoma, an increasingly recognized entity.
2. The following important review of ALK-rearranged tumors (other than NSCLC) should be added to the reference list: Mano H. ALKoma: a cancer subtype with a shared target. *Cancer Discov.* 2012 Jun;2(6):495-502. doi: 10.1158/2159-8290.CD-12-0009. Epub 2012 May 21. PMID: 22614325.