MS ID#: 1517
MS TITLE: Epstein-Barr virus negative lymphoepithelial carcinoma of parotid gland – a case report with review of literature.

Reviewer 1: Major revision

In this case report, Yang describes presentation and management of a patient with right parotid lymphoepithelioma. Overall, the case presentation is satisfactory and suitable for the readership of this journal. However, the following points need to be addressed:

1- What is the prognostic significance of EBV expression in LEC? For instance EBV serum titers were shown to correlate with treatment response in nasopharynx tumors.

2- The role of chemotherapy, if any should be discussed in Discussion. What kind of chemotherapy did the patient receive, did it elicit a response.

3- The study is marred by several typographical and grammatical mistakes requiring revision:
   a- p.2 Abstract, third line, By far, should be replaced by "So far"
   b- Abstract 10th line: "the non endemic" should be replaced by "a non endemic"
   c- Discussion: the first line of the discussion about IRB does not belong to that section.
   d- p6 third paragraph: "The tumor is" should be replaced by "the tumor", and drop is.
   e- Table p 12: EVB should be replaced by EBV.

Reviewer 2: Minor revision

This is a nice report about a case of EBV negative lymphoepithelial carcinoma (LEC) of parotid gland. The author also reviewed the literature and discussed the association between EBV and LEC.

In the article, the author has emphasized this is the 5th case of EBV negative LEC twice. However, the audience may also want to know whether there are any differences between EBV positive and EBV negative LECs. Should we treat them with different modalities? Whether they have similar prognosis or not? I think this is better than focusing on the epidemiology or histology of LEC.

Besides, we already know most LECs in endemic areas are associated with EBV and there are only some rare cases without EBV in the non-endemic areas. But we still can’t conclude that “LEC is likely resulted from a combination of genetic, environmental and geographic factors”. These descriptions certainly should be supported by proper references.

Reviewer 3: Acceptance

This is a well written and discussed manuscript presenting a case of a rare Epstein-Barr virus negative and Human papilloma virus negative lymphoepithelial carcinoma of the parotid gland. I would recommend
publishing due to the adequate presentation and working up of this case. HPV study in lymphoepithelial carcinoma of a salivary gland has not been reported so far.

Please add into the introduction that about 90% of all parotid tumors are benign to underline the rare disease in this case, and add parotid tumor to the key words. Besides, please correct the Abbreviation "EBV" on page 6, line 7, and in the legend of table 1. Correct the reference 4 into "Uber lympho-epitheliale Geschwulste"