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Statement of Interest: None declared.

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From the authors:

We thank T. Jindal, A. Kumar and R. Kumar for their interest in our previously published article [1]. They also experienced similar PET findings in two cases of pulmonary myofibroblastic tumours [2, 3].

Our ¹¹¹In-Diethylene triamine pentaacetic acid (DTPA)-D-Phe1 scans (octreoscan) with relative images were obtained in both cases at 4 and 24 h post-injection (planar whole-body images and single-photon emission computed tomography, as recommended by the guidelines of the European Association for Nuclear Medicine (EANM) and the Society for Nuclear Medicine (SNM) [4]). The tumour/background ratios were 3.8 and 2.5, respectively, calculated on the late (24 h) image.

We thank the authors for mentioning a previous report [5] which describes a pseudotumour with uptake on octreoscan; it seems to be quite interesting, even if in that case the tumour was present in the fossa pterygopalatina, secondary to an unclassified autoimmune disease, while in our two cases the pseudotumours were primary and localised in the lung. Based on octreoscan positivity, somatostatin receptor expression was suggested to be present but it was not demonstrated. This is the reason for our statement in the latter part of the manuscript: “To our knowledge, these are the first documented cases of IMT with positive octreoscan and SSTR immunohistochemistry” [1].

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- 2 Kumar A, Jindal T, Dutta R, *et al.* Functional imaging in differentiating bronchial masses: an initial experience with a combination of (18)F-FDG PET-CT scan and (68)Ga DOTA-TOC PET-CT scan. *Ann Nucl Med* 2009; 23: 745–751.
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Controlling asthma during pregnancy prevents asthma in children: a Berkson fallacy?

To the Editors:

Assessment of risk factors is absolutely essential to understanding how and why asthma develops in children. We read

with great interest the study by MARTEL *et al.* [1], which was recently published in the *European Respiratory Journal*, and considered the association between mothers' asthma in pregnancy and their children's risk of developing the disease [1].