

**From:** "Stahel Rolf Prof." <rolf.stahel@usz.ch>  
**To:** Jens Benn Sørensen <jens.benn.soerensen@rh.regionh.dk>  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 25, 2008 08:04AM  
**Subject:** AW: Mesothelioma Treatment

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Dear Jens ,

I see your trouble as a journalist from Denmark has contacted and spoken with me during the Geneva meeting. As there is no scientific prove of the superiority of on combination regimen over an other I was very careful in my wording , including stating that also a pemetrexed combination cannot be considered a curative treatment. Apparently the issue is handled very emotional which makes it difficult for listen to arguments . Should you really need a letter, what are the points you like to be dealt with?  
Kind regards Rolf

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**Von:** Jens Benn Sørensen [mailto:jens.benn.soerensen@rh.regionh.dk]  
**Gesendet:** Freitag, 20. Juni 2008 16:59  
**An:** Stahel Rolf Prof.  
**Betreff:** Mesothelioma Treatment

Dear Rolf,

I am writing to you as an internationally recognized expert on mesothelioma treatment and also because you have written the ESMO guidelines in Mesothelioma.

Currently a journalist from a Danish TV-channel is working on a program on mesothelioma. She have the thesis that the Vogelzang regimen with cisplatin + alimta is a regimen which is proven superior to all other combination chemotherapy regimens in this disease and hence it should be offered as 1st line to all these patients.

Accordingly, she claims that our previous treatment strategy using cisplatin + vinorelbine as 1st line followed by alimta as second line is clearly inferior to a strategy of cisplatin + alimta as 1st line followed by another agent as 2nd line. I personally disagree that this is scientifically proofed, even though certainly I do agree that cisplatin + alimta is a fine regimen and we also do use it. However, the TV-channel wants to criticize us for the strategy cited above.

Hence I would ask you about your opinion in this matter. Do you feel that it is scientifically proved that cisplatin + alimta is superior to other known combination chemotherapy regimens? I do know that you are busy and that many matters take your time. However it would certainly be a great help for us if you could possibly send me a letter with only a few sentences stating you view on this matter.

Best wishes, yours sincerely

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