**COVER LETTER**

To,

The Editor-in-chief

Annals of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (APALM)

**Subject:** submission of Manuscript for publication

I intend to publish an article entitled “**Cytokeratin expressing oncocytic variant of gastrointestinal stromal tumor : a morphological mimicker of an epithelial malignancy**” in your journal as a Letter-to-editor. I will act as guarantor and will correspond with the journal from this point onward.

Oncocytic variant of gastrointestinal stromal tumor characterised by the presence of abundant mitochondria has been described in literature. Cytokeratin expression in GIST is a rare manifestation, that may lead to diagnostic difficulty and errors as they can easily be mistaken for other epithelial or epithelioid mesenchymal tumors.Through this short letter to editor I wish to highlight this unusual variant of GIST, which morphologically mimics an epithelial malignancy,with the aberrant expression of cytokeratin furthur confounding us.

I am the sole author of this article and declare that I qualify for authorship and take public responsibility for the content of this article. I also acknowledge that this final version was read and approved. I also certify that this work is not considered elsewhere for publication and has not been presented anywhere. There are no conflicts of interest related to this work, to the best of my knowledge.

I have read the Copyright Policy of the Journal and agree to abide by the same in the event such work is published by the journal.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

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**Date**: 12/11/2016

**Place**: Mangalore