Author's response to reviews

Title: Analysis of gene expression in prostate cancer epithelial and interstitial stromal cells using laser capture microdissection

Authors:

Jennifer L Gregg (jreese5@kent.edu)
Kathleen E Brown (kbrown10@kent.edu)
Eric M Mintz (emintz@kent.edu)
Helen Piontkivska (opiontki@kent.edu)
Gail C Fraizer (gfraizer@kent.edu)

Version: 3 Date: 16 March 2010

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

We would like to thank you and the reviewer for your comments and we have revised the manuscript accordingly. Our point-by-point responses are given below.

Sincerely yours,
Gail Fraizer
Clinical Laboratory Sciences Program Director
Dept Biological Sciences
Kent State University
330-672-1398
330-672-3713 (fax)

Point-by-point responses to comments:

Reply to editor:
We have posted our data at GEO and have listed the accession number following the list of abbreviations (see below).

“Data Deposition
Results of the microarray analyses are posted at NCBI's Gene Expression Omnibus and are accessible through GEO Series accession number GSE20758 (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/query/acc.cgi?acc=GSE20758).”

Replies to Reviewer #1

Comment #1.
The revision of the manuscript by Gregg and colleagues has responded to my issues earlier raised. However, I still think that this basically elegant study could be more interesting if clinically relevant subgroups were compared, and that interpretation of the data should be done with caution due to lack of an independent validation set.

Reply: We agree that clinical subgroups comparisons would be interesting and in future studies it is our intent to compare expression patterns in groups having high Gleason grade tumors. At that time we expect to obtain sufficient samples for a robust analysis with an independent validation set.

Comment #2.
Currently, the 3rd sentence ‘...characterized by invasion of the lumen...’ is still confusing and does not reflect the pathology of prostate cancer.

Reply: Thank you for pointing out this oversight, Text on page 3 has now been corrected to read: “Prostatic adenocarcinoma is characterized by invasion of the underlying stroma by malignant epithelial cells (reviewed in [2]).”