Author's response to reviews

Title: Retinoblastoma-independent antiproliferative activity of novel intracellular antibodies against the E7 oncoprotein in HPV 16-positive cells.

Authors:

Luisa Accardi (luisa.accardi@iss.it)
Maria Gabriella Donà (dona@IFO.it)
Anna M Mileo (mileo@ifo.it)
Marco G Paggi (paggi@ifo.it)
Antonio Federico (federico@ifo.it)
Paola Torreri (paola.torreri@iss.it)
Tamara C Petrucci (tamara.petrucci@iss.it)
Rosita Accardi (accardi@iarc.fr)
David Pim (pim@icgeb.org)
Massimo Tommasino (tommasino@iarc.fr)
Lawrence Banks (banks@icgeb.org)
Barbara Chirullo (barbara.chirullo@iss.it)
Colomba Giorgi (colomba.giorgi@iss.it)

Version: 3 Date: 30 December 2010

Author's response to reviews:

Dear Dr Norton,

Please see the revised manuscript Retinoblastoma-independent antiproliferative activity of novel intracellular antibodies against the E7 oncoprotein in HPV 16-positive cells by Luisa Accardi, M. Gabriella Donà, Anna M. Mileo, Marco G. Paggi, Antonio Federico, Paola Torreri, Tamara C. Petrucci, Rosita Accardi, David Pim, Massimo Tommasino, Lawrence Banks, Barbara Chirullo, and Colomba Giorgi.

Responses to the reviewers’ concerns.

Reviewer 1:

1. The title has been modified to emphasize that the scFv binding sites on E7 protein do not correspond to the pRb-binding site;

2. A sentence has been included in the results explaining the reason of the variances in the C33A cells data; p value indicating statistical significance has been included in Fig. 2B;

3. A sentence has been included in the conclusions to underline the usefulness of single-chain-expressing constructs to address the issue of stability of recombinant antibodies in therapeutic applications.

All the revisions in the text but not those in figure 2B are highlighted in yellow.

I hope that the manuscript is now suitable for publication in the BMC cancer
journal.
Thank you for your attention and time.
Best regards,
Luisa Accardi