Author's response to reviews

Title: Inhibition of Radiation Induced Migration of Human Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma by Blocking EGF Receptor Pathways

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Response to referee 3:

To better address the referee’s concern (point 4 in his first review) we present plots to check the model assumptions for the generalized least squares regression models. For each of the three cell lines (HN, CAL and BHY), we plotted:

- the qq-norm plots of the residuals,
- the residuals versus the fitted values in form of scatterplots.

Although the residuals are not exactly normally distributed (especially for CAL), we observe no extreme outliers except one large value for CAL.
The variance of the residuals tends to increase with the fitted values, but this increase is moderate and there seems to be no trend.

On the whole, we think that the application of generalized least squares regression is acceptable in our case. This is in agreement with the fact that, in the case of pairwise comparisons, the t-test and the Mann-Whitney-test yield similar results (as stated in our previous response).

We added a remark in the manuscript to state that we checked the residuals.