Author’s response to reviews

Title: Moderate effect of c-MYC expression on response to radio- and chemotherapy in childhood medulloblastoma

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Version: 2 Date: 18 August 2010

Author’s response to reviews: see over
Dear Prof. Dr. Norton

We are pleased to submit our original article "Moderate effect of c-MYC expression on response to radio- and chemotherapy in childhood medulloblastoma" by André O. von Bueren et al. to be considered for publication in *BMC Cancer*.

The role of c-MYC in medulloblastoma (MB) is well indicated but unclear. Further studies of the function of c-MYC in MB, and any role c-MYC may play in treatment response, are clearly warranted. Our study shows that c-MYC may sensitize MB cells - transfected to over-express c-MYC - to radiotherapy and some chemotherapeutic drugs. However, MB patients with tumors expressing high c-MYC mRNA levels showed a comparable objective response rate - as determined by neuroradiological imaging - as MB patients with low c-MYC mRNA expressing tumors. Based on our results, c-MYC displays only a moderate effect on response to radio- and chemotherapy in childhood MB. Additional investigations in xenografts and larger MB cohorts might help to define the exact role of c-MYC in modulating response to treatment.

Hereby, I confirm that all authors have seen and approved the manuscript, that they have contributed significantly to the work, and that the manuscript has not been published and is not being considered for publication elsewhere. On behalf of all authors I state that all potential conflicts of interest have been disclosed.

Yours sincerely,

André O. von Bueren, M.D., Ph.D.