Author's response to reviews

Title: Tri-Modality Therapy with I-125 brachytherapy, external beam radiation therapy, and short- or long-term hormone therapy for high-risk localized prostate cancer (TRIP): study protocol for a phase III, multicenter, randomized, controlled trial

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Kanazawa, October 25th 2011

Dear editorial board of BMC Cancer,

Please find enclosed the manuscript: “Tri-Modality Therapy with I-125 brachytherapy, external beam radiation therapy, and short- or long-term hormone therapy for high-risk localized prostate cancer (TRIP): study protocol for a phase III, multicenter, randomized, controlled trial”, by Hiroyuki Konaka, et al., to be submitted as a protocol paper to the BMC cancer for consideration of publication. All co-authors have seen and agree with the contents of the manuscript and there is no financial interest to report. We certify that the submission is original work and is not under review at any other publication.

In this manuscript, we describe our study protocol for high-risk prostate cancer, which is a phase III, multicenter, randomized controlled trial of a trimodality treatment protocol with brachytherapy using iodine-125, external beam radiation therapy, and neo-adjuvant and concurrent hormone therapy for 6 months with or without adjuvant hormone therapy for 2 years. We also assessed whether short-term hormone therapy without adjuvant hormone therapy or long-term hormone therapy with adjuvant hormone therapy is better with regard to improved local control and biochemical cure rate in high-risk localized prostate cancer.

We believe that our study protocol could be of interest to the readers of BMC cancer because they bring new and strong evidence that this trimodality treatment become an appropriate treatment strategy for high-risk prostate cancer without increasing the occurrence of adverse events.

We hope that the editorial board will agree on the interest of this study.

Sincerely yours,

Hiroyuki Konaka and Mikio Namiki on behalf of the authors.

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