Author's response to reviews

Title: Fascin overexpression promotes neoplastic progression in OSCC.

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Author's response to reviews: see over
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To
The Editor-in-chief,
BMC Cancer

Dear Sir,

I am submitting herewith our manuscript (research article) entitled “Fascin overexpression promotes neoplastic progression in OSCC.” for publication in BMC Cancer. Our group has been working on different aspects of keratin biology with especial reference to human oral cancer. We have published several papers regarding alterations of keratins and other associated proteins in human oral pre-cancer and cancer. We have also published papers related to K8/18 functions in OSCC. In one of our recent paper (Published in JCS, 2011) we have delineated mechanisms of K8/18-mediated tumor progression. Currently our laboratory is engaged in understanding the role of fascin which is an actin bundling protein in cell migration and invasion in OSCC.

Fascin is a highly conserved globular actin bundling protein, widely expressed in neural and mesenchymal tissues. It is either low or absent in adult epithelia. Fascin plays an important role in the formation of filopodia and spiky protrusions and thereby regulating cell migration and invasion. In the current study we have made an effort to understand function of fascin in cell migration and invasion and its underlying mechanism in OSCC progression using an in vitro system. Furthermore, we show statistically significant correlation of fascin expression with regional lymph node metastasis and poor patient survival of OSCC. This study will prove an important step in understanding the role of fascin in OSCC progression and its possible use in the prognostication of OSCC.

The manuscripts are original and have not been submitted or accepted anywhere for publication either in whole or in part and are not under consideration for publication in any other journal. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us by email at the address given below or call us at the numbers listed below.

I hope you will find work submitted here suitable for publication in BMC Cancer.

Thanking you,

Sincerely,

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