Author's response to reviews

Title: TMEM45A as a new biomarker of chemo resistance in cancer cells

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor-in-Chief,

Could you find enclosed a re-revised version of the manuscript entitled “TMEM45A is essential for hypoxia-induced chemoresistance in breast and liver cancer cells” by L. Flamant, E. Roegiers, M. Pierre, A. Hayez, C. Sterpin, O. De Backer, T. Arnould, Y. Poumay and C. Michiels for submission in BMC Cancer.

The three reviewers found our work very interesting but raised a series of comments and suggestions. In the first revised version, we took carefully into account all of them and we have included results from new experiments, that all confirmed previous ones. Two reviewers were satisfied with these improvements. However, one reviewer rightly found that we did not provide explanation regarding the lack of protein expression data to demonstrate successful siRNA mediated knockdown. We think that is indeed needed and now provided, in the newly revised version, a detailed explanation regarding this issue. Moreover, a careful proof reading and correction has been performed throughout the whole manuscript. A point-by-point detailed answer to these two comments is provided in the rebuttal letter.

Owing to these improvements, to the complete novelty of these results and to the growing interest on hypoxia and to the potential importance of the molecular and biochemical effect of hypoxia on tumor resistance for patient outcome, we think that this work is now really worth to be published in BMC Cancer.

Thanking you in advance for considering this work,

Sincerely yours,

Prof. Carine Michiels

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The authors declare no conflict of interest. They declare that this work is not under consideration elsewhere.