Author's response to reviews

Title: Monocytes and the 38kDa-antigen of mycobacterium tuberculosis modulate natural killer cell activity and their cytolysis directed against ovarian cancer cell lines

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Manuscript Title:

Monocytes and the 38 kDa-antigen of mycobacterium tuberculosis modulate natural killer cell activity and their cytolysis directed against ovarian cancer cell lines

Dear Dr. Odunsi,

Thank you very much again for reviewing our manuscript. In this second revised version we incorporated all minor changes suggested by reviewer Junko Matsuzaki. Changes are indicated by red colour. Please find below our point-by-point reply.

We hope that our study will now fully meet the standards expected by the reviewers and will be suitable for publication in BMC Cancer.

We are looking forward to receiving your final decision.

Sincerely,

Sven Brandau
DETAILED POINT BY POINT REPLY:

Reviewer (29 August 2012) Matsuzaki

Minor Essential Revisions:

Ad 1.): Page 8, Line 22-23; This effect decline on day three due to decreasing NK activity. This sentence is confusing because CD69 expression and IFN-g secretion on day three are higher than day one. To specify NK “cytotoxic” activity would be needed.

Response: We thank the reviewer for this remark. Of course, the word “cytotoxic” is missing here. We added “cytotoxic” in Line 22-23.

Ad 2.): Page 9, Line 8; CD89 should be CD86

Response: Thank you again. We corrected the typo.

Ad 3.): Reference(s) for CD16-positive and −negative NK cell function should be included.

Response: Because of our recently added data regarding the discrimination of CD16-positive and −negative NK cells we agree with the reviewer that additional references should be added. Therefore, we amended the “Background” section (page 6, line 13-16) and added references [14] and [15] in “Background” and “Results”.