Author's response to reviews

Title: Detection methods predict differences in biology and survival in breast cancer patients

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The only change made is to change the title of the journal, this was a mistake. This article was previously submitted to Annals of Surgical Oncology, but the magazine does not consider it a topic appropriate to the content of this journal. In this way the covering letter is as follows:

Marbella, July 12, 2011

Dr. Christna Chap
Executive Editor
BMC Cancer

Dear Dr. Chap

I enclose the manuscript: “Detection methods predict differences in biology and survival in breast cancer patients” to be considered for publication in BMC cancer.

This paper has not been and will not be submitted simultaneously to another journal, in whole or in part and it reports previously unpublished work. All name authors have agreed to submit the paper to BMC cancer in its present form and
have participated in the study to a sufficient extent to be named as authors.

In practice screen detected and symptomatic cancers are not treated that differently, in that treatment is based primarily on classical tumor characteristics and nodal status. Our findings, for the first time, confirm that incident carcinomas represent a variety of screen-detected carcinomas whose prognostic significance is similar to that for symptomatic breast carcinomas. Therefore, the mode of breast cancer detection should be taken into account when determining individual patient management strategies. Thus, only tumors detected in prevalent screens (detected in the first round of a screening) should be treated differentially from any other breast tumors detected in any other way.

I hope hearing from you soon.

Thank you very much for your attention,

Sincerely yours

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