Author's response to reviews

Title: Systematic Antibody Generation and Validation via Tissue Microarray Technology Leading to Identification of a Novel Protein Prognostic Panel in Breast Cancer

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Dear Editors,

Please find attached our manuscript, entitled ‘**Systematic Antibody Generation and Validation via Tissue Microarray Technology Leading to Identification of a Novel Protein Prognostic Panel in Breast Cancer**’ for consideration with respect to publication as a Research Article in BMC Cancer. This work is the result of an international collaborative effort between several cancer research groups; UCD Conway Institute (Ireland), Molecular Therapeutics for Cancer Ireland (Ireland), Lund University (Sweden) and Uppsala University (Sweden).

Antibody-based proteomics present a key role in fast-tracking the development of new diagnostic assays, a crucial step towards achieving personalisation of cancer therapy for patients with newly diagnosed breast cancer [1]. In this study, we identified a 3-protein prognostic panel using a discrete set of immunohistochemical markers, a concept previously the subject of an invited editorial in the BMC journal, *Breast Cancer Research* [2]. We employed a systematic approach to generate and screen affinity-purified, monoclonal antibodies towards progression-related biomarkers, with a view towards obtaining a clinically applicable immunohistochemistry (IHC)-based prognostic biomarker panel for breast cancer.

The previous version of the manuscript has been submitted to *Breast Cancer Research* journal and we follow the advice of their Editorial Board to submit to another BMC journal. At present, there are no other concurrent or related submissions to any other publications. The authors declare no potential competing interests. We look forward to hearing from you in due course with feedback from the peer review and editorial process.

Yours sincerely,

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