Author's response to reviews

Title: RKIP phosphorylation and STAT3 activation is inhibited by Oxaliplatin and Camptothecin and are associated with poor prognosis in Stage II colon cancer patients

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Version: 3 Date: 27 August 2013

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The Biomed Central Editorial Team

Object: MS: 2041428456984549 - RKIP phosphorylation and STAT3 activation is inhibited by Oxaliplatin and Camptothecin and are associated with poor prognosis in Stage II colon cancer patients. Mr. Sam Cross-Knorr et al.

Thank you for consideration of our manuscript for publication in your journal. We have reviewed and revised the above manuscript for the second time according to your reviewer’s comments. We have modified the text and our new changes are highlighted in green. We hope that are changes will satisfy the Reviewers and our manuscript will now be accepted for publication in BMC Cancer.

Reviewer's report
Title: RKIP phosphorylation and STAT3 activation is inhibited by Oxaliplatin and Camptothecin and are associated with poor prognosis in Stage II colon cancer patients
Version: 2 Date: 20 August 2013
Reviewer: Viktor H Koelzer

Reviewer's report:
The authors have appropriately addressed all comments raised by the reviewer. I am confident that the manuscript has profited from the joint review process. Only some minor issues remain to be addressed.

Minor Essential Revisions:
Conclusion §1: In summary, this study examines for the first time, the expression profile of RKIP, phospho- RKIP and STAT3 in Stage II colon cancer. • Analysis of the expression profile of RKIP in stage II CRC is not performed by the current study. Please explain. Response: The expression profile of RKIP was performed and no statistically significant correlation was found with any of the clinicopathological features or patient follow. This is the reason the study focuses on phosphorylated RKIP.
- Please include this data in the results as it was performed as part of the study, or comment on why the data was excluded. A brief discussion on why the results on RKIP may be discrepant from the previous studies in the field would be interesting to the reader.

Response: We have now included data on RKIP in the Results.

Discretionary Revisions: Please correct the following minor points: Methods; Patients and specimens: - Please correct (graphic error, Line 4-5).
Results; § 8
- Please correct: Twenty-six percentage -to- Twenty six percent

Results; § 9- Please correct:
The role that nuclear-STAT3 levels play tumor
grade was studied and a significantly greater percentage of nuclear-STAT3 positive
tumors are high grade (20%) compared to nuclear STAT3 negative tumors (5%) 
(P=0.064) (Table 2 and Figure 5B).

Discussion; § 1:
The phosphorylation of pRKIP may lead to the activation of distinct pathways...

Response: All of the suggested changes have been made.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published
Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.
Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.