Author's response to reviews

Title: MMP-9 expression varies according to molecular subtypes of breast cancer

Authors:

Einas M Yousef (enasesawy@hotmail.com)
Muhammad R Tahir (ramzantahir7@gmail.com)
Yves St-Pierre Prof. (yves.st-pierre@iaf.inrs.ca)
Louis A Gaboury Prof. (louis.gaboury@umontreal.ca)

Version: 6 Date: 4 July 2014

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Subject: MS: 6632970051263567. MMP-9 expression varies according to molecular subtypes of breast cancer. Einas M Yousef, Muhammad R Tahir, Yves St-Pierre Prof. and Louis A Gaboury Prof

Answer to the Editor concerning the informed consent from the patients.

Sir/Madam,

TMA’s used in the present study were constructed from formalin-fixed paraffin embedded tissue blocks stored in the archives of the Department of pathology CHUM. We were granted approval from the IRB at our institution, Centre Hospitalier de l’Université de Montréal (CHUM) in 2005 with a renewal in 2010. Since all the sensitive information was anonymised, the ethical board did not request that we retrospectively obtain individual consent from each patient. I hope that you will find everything to be satisfactory.

Louis Gaboury M.D., Ph.D., F.R.C.P.C, F.C.A.P
Professor
Chair