Author's response to reviews

Title: Immunohistochemical detection improves the prognostic value of lymphatic and blood vessel invasion in primary ductal breast cancer

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Author's response to reviews: see over
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Dear Editor-in Chief,

Please find enclosed a copy of the manuscript titled “Immunohistochemical detection improves the prognostic value of lymphatic and blood vessel invasion in primary ductal breast cancer” to be considered for publication in BMC Cancer.

I, the corresponding author declare that this work is original, has not been accepted for publication nor is concurrently under consideration elsewhere and no any part of this article has been sent by mail. Also, I declare that all co-authors have agreed with the present form of submission.

The aim of the present study was to examine the prognostic value of different assessments of the lymphatic (LVI) and blood (BVI) vessel invasion in patients with early, especially node-negative and triple-negative breast cancer. We find that assessment of LVI and BVI by immunohistochemistry (IHC) using D2-40 and Factor VIII improves prediction of outcome in early breast cancer. IHC for D2-40 and Factor VIII define lymphatic and blood vessels with more sensitivity and specificity than H&E. LVI and BVI were powerful independent adverse prognostic factors in breast cancer, including node-negative and triple-negative cases, giving a clear case for using such endothelial markers in diagnostic clinical practice.
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I look forward to your reply in due course.

Yours sincerely,