Author’s response to reviews

Title: Multicenter Phase II Study of Apatinib in Non-triple-negative Metastatic Breast Cancer

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

Thanks to Sara Hurvitz for her comments. We have made several language corrections. The changes are listed below. Thank you very much for your time and further consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Xichun Hu

1. Page 5, line 11

‘VEGFR’ was replaced by ‘VEGFRs’.

2. Page 5, line 20

The sentence of ‘However, single agent of sorafenib did not exhibit activity when measured by tumor shrinkage in patients with MBC who had received prior standard chemotherapy\(^\text{18-19}\), while sunitinib has some antitumor activity, relatively high toxicity and no additional benefit while combined with chemotherapy\(^\text{17}\)’ was replaced by ‘However, single agent of sorafenib did not exhibit activity when measured by tumor shrinkage in patients with MBC who had received prior standard chemotherapy\(^\text{18-19}\). Sunitinib has some antitumor activity, but relatively high toxicity and no additional benefit when combined with chemotherapy\(^\text{17}\)’.

3. Page 6, line 1

‘toxicity’ was replaced by ‘toxicities’.

4. Page 6, line 2

‘if apatinib is safe and effective’ was replaced by ‘efficacy and safety of
apatinib’.

5. Page 9, line 19
‘including one CR and five PR’ was deleted.

6. Page 10, line 24
‘improvement’ was added after ‘response rate’.