Author's response to reviews

**Title:** Surface TRAIL decoy receptor-4 expression is correlated with TRAIL resistance in MCF7 breast cancer cells

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In-House Editor of *BMC Cancer* Journal,

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Ref to: an offer by Breast Cancer Research on article BCR041220P

Dear Editor, I would like to submit enclosed manuscript entitled “Surface TRAIL receptor-4 expression is correlated with TRAIL resistance in MCF7 breast cancer cells” for publication in *BMC Cancer*. I have submitted the previous version of this manuscript to Breast Cancer Research but it was rejected. I got the comments from referees. The editorial board of Breast Cancer Research felt that if I submit this manuscript to your journal my manuscript will not need to be reviewed again by referees as long as I answer the major criticisms from them. Editorial board of Breast Cancer Research stated that when I submit my article to your journal I should mention this offer to you. I believe that we have done all the critical assays asked by the reviewers and I attached this letter as a rebuttal letter for you to see. There are two important novel points to consider in this paper. Currently, there is some dispute over whether TRAIL decoy receptor expression influences TRAIL sensitivity in cancer cells or not. In the previous version of the manuscript we did not have a strong data to support this. That was the major criticism from the referees. This manuscript with revised version strongly suggests that the expression of TRAIL-R4 decoy receptor on the surface of MCF7 breast carcinoma cell line correlated well with TRAIL resistance as shown by novel Real Time RT-PCR and flow cytometry assays. On the other hand low levels of TRAIL-R4 expression on MDA-MB-231 cell line is correlated with TRAIL sensitivity. The other novelty is that adenovirus delivery of IKK\(\beta\) dominant negative mutant (IKK\(\beta\)KA) expression overwhelmed TRAIL resistance observed in MCF7 breast cancer cells despite TRAIL-R4 decoy receptor expression on surface. This part of the paper referees did not have any major criticism. This article contains original data and is not submitted to somewhere else for publication. I am looking forward to hearing from you. Sincerely,

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