Author's response to reviews

Title: Nuclear and cytosolic overexpression of LASP-1 correlates with tumor size and nodal-positivity of human breast carcinoma

Authors:

Elke Butt (butt@klin-biochem.uni-wuerzburg.de)
Thomas TG Gruenewald (Thgruenewald@web.de)
Arnd Honig (arnd_honig@hotmail.com)
Michaela Kapp (M.Kapp@mail.uni.wuerzburg.de)
Matthias Eck (Matth.Eck@gmx.de)
Johannes Dietl (frauenklinik@mail.uni-wuerzburg.de)
Ulrike Kammerer (frak057@mail.uni-wuerzburg.de)

Version: 3 Date: 16 July 2007

Author's response to reviews:

Dear Sir,

Enclosed please find a manuscript entitled:

"Nuclear and cytosolic overexpression of LASP-1 correlates with tumor size and nodal-positivity of human breast carcinoma "

by Thomas GP Gruenewald, Ulrike Kammerer, Michaela Kapp, Matthias Eck, Johannes Dietl, Elke Butt and Arnd Honig

which we are submitting to be considered for publication as a research article in "BMC Cancer"

We have been working on the LASP-1 protein since 2001 and identified LASP as an cAMP- and cGMP-depending signaling protein in human and mouse. In the course of our studies we have generated a panel of polyclonal antibodies which specifically detect LASP-1 in Western blots as well as in paraffin embedded tissue samples. Using these antibodies, we performed a pathohistological patients study on tissue samples of breast cancer, DCIS and normal breast. Compared to the LASP-negative epithelial cells in normal breast tissue, LASP-1 was found to be highly expressed in 55,4 % of invasive carcinomas. The expression correlated with increased tumor size and rate of nodal-positivity but not with average age at time point of diagnosis, histological tumor grading, c-erbB2-, ER- or PR-expression.

We are very optimistic, that our investigations on LASP-1 (granted by the German Cancer Foundation) will figure out an important role of LASP for the development of metastatic breast cancer and will allow us to determine LASP as independent marker for diagnosis of breast cancer as well as a marker for prognosis of this disease.
Thank you for your consideration,
Sincerely,
PD Dr. Elke Butt