June 3, 2007

Editorial Office of BMC Cancer
BioMed Central Ltd, Middlesex House,
34-42 Cleveland Street, London W1T 4LB, UK.

Dear Editor:

An original manuscript entitled “poly I:C enhances cycloheximide-induced apoptosis of tumor cells through TLR3 pathway” is submitted by Qun Jiang and her colleagues for your consideration for publication in BMC Cancer.

Toll-like receptor 3 (TLR3) plays an important role in innate immune responses against dsRNA viruses, which was considered to be mainly expressed in immune cells and some endothelial cells. This study investigated the expression and proapoptotic activity of TLR3 in human and murine tumor cell lines. It’s shown that TLR3 are widely expressed on human and murine tumor cell lines, and activation of TLR3 signaling in cancerous cells by poly I:C made Hela cells (human cervical cancer) and MCA38 cells (murine colon cancer) become dose-dependently sensitive to protein synthesis inhibitor cycloheximide (CHX)-induced apoptosis. More over, blockade of TLR3 recognition with anti-TLR3 antibody greatly attenuated the apoptosis-improving effects of poly I:C on tumor cells. This study demonstrated the proapoptotic activity of TLR3 expressed by various tumor cells, which may uncover a new range of clinical applications for TLR3 agonists as an adjuvant of certain cancer chemotherapy.

All authors who have actively participated in this study agree with the submission of the manuscript to BMC Cancer. The work has not been published elsewhere, either completely, in part, or in another form and that the manuscript has not been submitted to another journal and will not be published elsewhere within one year after publication in this journal.

Please address all correspondences regarding the manuscript to Dr Zhigang Tian, School of
Thank you.

Sincerely,

Zhigang Tian, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor and Director of Institute of Immunology
University of Science and Technology of China,
Hefei City, China