Author's response to reviews

Title: Low expression of a few genes indicates good prognosis in estrogen receptor positive breast cancer

Authors:

Steven Buechler (buechler.1@nd.edu)

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Title: Low expression of a few genes indicates good prognosis in estrogen receptor positive breast cancer

To the editors of *BMC Cancer*:

Here, a novel method of modeling distinct cellular states is used to derive a discrete model for metastasis in ER+ breast cancer. Three genes are identified such that elevated expression of any of the genes predicts metastasis. These genes are all central to mitosis. This test only requires establishing a threshold between high and low expression of each gene, which, research suggests, may be identified by immunohistochemistry. This multi-gene extension of the Ki-67 proliferation index would identify ER+ breast cancer patients who will not benefit from chemotherapy.

This research draws on and potentially impacts biostatistics, oncology, cancer biology and pathology. At the same time it applies directly to breast cancer prognosis. I feel that *BMC Cancer* is an ideal journal for this article.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Buechler  
Department of Mathematics  
255 Hurley Hall  
University of Notre Dame  
Notre Dame, IN 46556

Phone: 574-631-6233  
Email: buechler.1@nd.edu