Author's response to reviews

Title: Gene expression profiling identifies activated growth factor signaling in poor prognosis (Luminal-B) estrogen receptor positive breast cancer

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To the editors of BMC Medical Genomics.

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Dear Sir/Madam,

We are pleased to resubmit our manuscript entitled a “Gene expression profiling identifies activated growth factor signaling in poor prognosis (Luminal-B) estrogen receptor positive breast cancer” for consideration of publication in your journal.

Please find attached a 1. revised, tracked version and a 2. clean version of the manuscript.

REVIEWERS POINTS:

Reviewer one:
1. It would have been interesting to see further testing of your hypothesis in the BT-474 cell line.

The BT-474 breast cancer cell line, whilst estrogen receptor positive, displays high levels of HER2 protein expression. Hence, as we were investigating activated growth factor signaling in the absence of HER2 overexpression, this cell line would not have been appropriate.

2. Typo in page 16: gene “expression” enrichment analysis should be gene-set
   This has been altered- see page 16

Reviewer two:
1. Discretionary revisions: In the introduction a bit more about the validation work motivated by the hypotheses generated by GSEA would be great. Again to further argue the authors claim of hypothesis generation and then validation.

A further reference is added on page 6.

With best wishes,
Sherene Loi