Author's response to reviews

Title: A microRNA Molecular Modeling Extension for Prediction of Colorectal Cancer Treatment

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Version: 4 Date: 11 May 2015

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

thank you again for your response and reviewers' comments. We have modified our manuscript again in response to reviewers's comments and suggestions. The ref[33] has been checked and is working properly now. The revisions, starting with the last submission, are addressed below:

First Reviewer: Malay MB Bhattacharyya

Minor Essential Revisions:

1. The simulation algorithm used in FCA should also be appropriately formatted. You should highlight the inputs and outputs of the algorithm too. Many of the definitions in the successive pages are also not properly written.

   Answer: We improved the format-expression of FCA simulation algorithm and added input and output information. The expressions of definitions have been improved, too.

Second Reviewer: Yajun Yi

I. MAJOR COMPULSORY REVISIONS

1. The main prediction results show that most MSI patients would respond to both drug treatments; however, most MSS patients would not. It is not clear to me that whether miRNA profile based predictive score is independent of MSS/MSI prediction?

   Answer: Thank you for the concern of this issue. Based on the result of response prediction of different CRC cell lines, we demonstrated that miRNA profile helps to improve the response prediction (Fig. 4 in the main manuscript). Therefore, we assume that miRNA profile can also help for the response prediction of MSS/MSI patients.

2. Missing "Discussion section" in the revised manuscript.

   Answer: added discussion section.

II. Minor Essential Revisions

1. Page 4, Paragraph 4, step 1 paragraph of the section "Molecular Addition of miRNA-Regulation (miRAO)" was placed incorrectly in the section of "The Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drug (NSAID) Model".

   Answer: corrected.