Author's response to reviews

Title: Intratumoral cholesteryl ester accumulation is associated with human breast cancer proliferation and dedifferentiation: a molecular and clinicopathological study

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

Enclosed please find the article entitled: “Intratumor cholesteryl ester accumulation is associated with human breast cancer proliferation and dedifferentiation: a molecular and clinicopathological study” to be considered for publication in BMC Cancer.

In this study, we report that intratumor cholesteryl ester (CE) accumulation is intimately linked to proliferation and dedifferentiation of breast cancer tumors. Our data support the link between intratumoral CE content and poor clinical outcome. The mechanism of CE accumulation seems to be mediated by an increased cholesterol uptake (LDLR and SCARB1) and esterification (ACAT1). Moreover, our study supports findings from in vitro data indicating that cholesterol internalization and esterification mediators are potential targets to counteract intratumor CE accumulation.

All authors have read and approved submission of the manuscript and the manuscript has not been published and is not being considered for publication elsewhere in whole or part in any language except as an abstract. None of the authors have any conflict of interest with the publication of the manuscript.

We thank you for your time and effort.

Sincerely

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