Author's response to reviews

Title: Enhancement of Cetuximab-Induced Radiosensitization by JAK-1 Inhibition

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Dear Editor-in-Chief:

Please find attached my article entitled “Enhancement of Cetuximab-Induced Radiosensitization by JAK-1 Inhibition.” The head and neck cancer community has a strong interest in the use of anti-EGFr treatments for both locoregionally confined tumors and metastatic tumors. Our investigation builds upon the previous work with anti-EGFr treatments in combination with radiation. We have previously shown that anti-EGFr treatments partially inhibit STAT-3. Therefore, we have explored the concurrent use of an anti-EGFr agent, a JAK-STAT inhibitor and radiation in human head and neck cancer cells. This combined approach appears to offer enhanced radiosensitization compared to utilizing either radiosensitizer alone. This enhanced radiosensitization appears to be mechanistically linked to inhibition of DNA repair. We hope that you find this information useful and appropriate for your readership.

If I can be of any further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,

James A. Bonner, M.D.
Merle M. Salter Professor and Chairman
President, University of Alabama Health Services Foundation