Author’s response to reviews

Title: Temporal and geographic variation in the systemic treatment of advanced prostate cancer

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Dr. Houssein,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a revised version of our manuscript entitled “Temporal and geographic variation in the systemic treatment of advanced prostate cancer.” We have addressed the comments in this letter and in the manuscript where appropriate. We are submitting a single clean version of the manuscript.

We thank you again for your consideration and your interest in publishing our work in BMC Cancer. This manuscript is not under consideration by any other journal. All authors have read and approved the revised manuscript.

Sincerely,

Megan Caram, MD, MSc
Editor and Reviewer Comments have been itemized and are pasted below in quotations. Authors’ responses are immediately following each comment with an ** before them.

Editor Comments:

1) “Please add 3-10 keywords after your abstract.”

**Key words were added immediately following the abstract.

2) “On uploading your revisions, please remove all tracking/highlighting and instead upload a single clean version of the manuscript.”

**A single clean version of the manuscript has been submitted with all of the requested changes.

3) “Authors' contributions (within declarations) - please add the phrase: 'All authors read and approved the final manuscript.’”

**The requested phrase has been added to the beginning of the Author Contributions section under Declarations at the end of the manuscript.

4) “Under Funding (within declarations) - please add the phrase: 'The funding body had no role in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript'.”
**The requested phrase has been added to the Funding section under Declarations at the end of the manuscript.

5) “Please remove the figure titles from your figures.”

**The titles were removed from the three Figures and the revised Figures have been uploaded.

Reviewer 2 Comments:

1) “The authors have revised their manuscript and proposed a research agenda for future work in the Discussion. This paper is rather narrative and more work is needed to answer these questions regarding to temporal and geographic variation in the systemic treatment of CRPC in US. However, these findings are meaningful for CRPC patients living in different area to be treated differently. Besides, the outcome and survival time could be different for these patients in different area. I am looking forward to see serial studies result about this topics.

Because the timing of approval and availability for these treatments is likely to be a major contributor to their frequency of use. I would suggest the authors to mark the approval year of these 6 focus drugs in Fig1. The phenomenon would be better demonstrated to the readers.”

**We have revised Figure 1 to include a timeline that illustrates the timing of first FDA-approval for the 6 focus drugs and indicated this in the Figure legend as well.