

Author's response to reviews

Title: Hypothesis: Primary antiangiogenic method proposed to treat early stage breast cancer

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear Editors of BMC Central,

This paper was originally submitted to Breast-Cancer-Research since it continues on the path established by three papers published in that journal in 2004. One of those papers was the subject of a press release from BMC on October 11, 2004 that was titled "Mastectomy may speed breast cancer relapses in young women". Two of the 2004 papers have been downloaded over 25,000 times.

The current paper now suggests a way to take advantage of the knowledge gained and reported in the 2004 papers. The therapy suggested may seem to you like a wild and bizarre idea but I assure you that it is quite reasonable given what we have learned. A few months before he died this past January, I discussed this new hypothesis with Judah Folkman and he highly encouraged me to pursue it.

Breast-Cancer-Research declined to have the paper sent for outside review and instead suggested it be submitted to BMC Cancer. I presume they thought it better suited for a broader based audience since the idea is relevant to oncology in general rather than just breast cancer. They are probably right and we therefore submit the paper to BMC Cancer.

Sincerely,

Michael Retsky

Children's Hospital/Harvard Medical School