**Author's response to reviews**

**Title:** Gene expression analysis of glioblastomas identifies the major molecular basis for the prognostic benefit of younger age.

**Authors:**


Yohan Lee (yohanlee@ucla.edu)
Adrienne C Scheck (Adrienne.Scheck@chw.edu)
Timothy F Cloughesy (tcloughe@ucla.edu)
Albert Lai (albertlai@mednet.ucla.edu)
Jun Dong (jundong@ucla.edu)
Haumith K Farooqi (HKFarooqi@mednet.ucla.edu)
Linda M Liau (lliau@mednet.ucla.edu)
Steve S Horvath (shorvath@mednet.ucla.edu)
Paul S Mischel (shorvath@mednet.ucla.edu)
Stanley F Nelson (snelson@ucla.edu)



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Dear Editor,

Please consider for publication in BMC Genomics the uploaded manuscript "Gene expression analysis of glioblastomas identifies the major molecular basis for the prognostic benefit of younger age." by Yohan Lee, et al. This paper organizes a large cohort of genome scale expression data from glioblastoma tumor samples for which survival and age at onset data were available. Previous work by our group and others, has indicated that a single gene expression defined molecular group of GBMs, termed HC1A or ProNeural, are associated with a longer survival time of the patient. Further, it has been noted for decades that patients who present with GBM at younger ages have longer survival times than patients presenting at older ages. Here we demonstrate using a genomic approach that the primary factor of this survival advantage of the younger patients is due to a higher fraction of those tumors being of the ProNeural type. If corrected for gene expression type, there is no survival advantage of younger age within the molecularly defined GBM subtypes.

We declare the content of the manuscript is original and that it has not been published or accepted for publication, either in whole or in part, in any form. No part of the manuscript is currently under consideration for publication elsewhere.

Sincerely,


Dr. Stanley F. Nelson

695 Charles E. Young Drive South

Bldg Gonda, Rm. 5506A

Department of Human Genetics
UCLA School of Medicine
Los Angeles, California 90095
Tel: 310-794-7981
Fax: 310-794-5446
Email: snelson@ucla.edu

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