Author's response to reviews

Title: Site-specific relapse pattern of the triple negative tumors in Chinese breast cancer patients

Authors:

Yanping Lin (ucdosttl@yahoo.com.cn)
Wenjin Yin (followroad@yahoo.com.cn)
Tingting Yan (yantingting2002@163.com)
Liheng Zhou (kaneshiro.lily@gmail.com)
Genhong Di (Didy@medmail.com.cn)
Jiong Wu (Wujiong1122@medmail.com.cn)
Zhenzhou Shen (zzshen@medmail.com)
Zhimin Shao (zhiminshao@yahoo.com)
Jinsong Lu (lujjss@yahoo.com.cn)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear editor:

Thanks a lot for your very nice letter. Here is the point-by-point response to your concerns.

COMMENT 1: As you will see your manuscript is almost acceptable for publication. However, before we will be able to proceed we need you to clarify if you received ethical approval for this study. If it was not required then a clear statement to explain why must be included in the methods section of your manuscript: Ethics - Experimental research that is reported in the manuscript must have been performed with the approval of an appropriate ethics committee. Research carried out on humans must be in compliance with the Helsinki Declaration (http://www.wma.net/e/policy/b3.htm), and any experimental research on animals must follow internationally recognized guidelines. A statement to this effect must appear in the Methods section of the manuscript, including the name of the body which gave approval, with a reference number where appropriate.

RESPONSE: As our study was a retrospective analysis without any medical intervention, the ethical approval was therefore not required as other studies published in the international journals [1-5], which is in compliance with the Helsinki Declaration [6]. For clear explanation of this point, we have modified our paper in the Methods section (Page 7) by adding “As this was a retrospective study without any medical intervention, the ethical approval was not required”.

COMMENT 2: Please also ensure that your revised manuscript conforms to the journal style (http://www.biomedcentral.com/info/ifora/medicine_journals). It is important that your files are correctly formatted

RESPONSE: Yes, we have confirmed this point. Thank you.
Many thanks again and we are looking forward to your reply. If you have any question, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With best wishes,

Jinsong Lu M.D.
Department of Breast Surgery
Cancer Hospital, Fudan University
No.399, Ling-Ling Road, Shanghai 200032, China

Reference: