

Author's response to reviews

Title: Breast cancer therapy for BRCA1 carriers: moving towards platinum standard?

Authors:

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear Editors,

I appreciate greatly your positive consideration of this manuscript. I am also very thankful to the work of the reviewers aimed to improve this paper.

Please find below the response to the critical comments:

Reviewer #1:

Comment: Much of the argument centres around a single publication regarding the use of cisplatin in only 10 patients. A broader assessment of the literature pertaining to platinum sensitivity in patients carrying a BRCA1 mutation is required before this could be considered for publication.

Response: I think, this is a confusion!!! The manuscript explicitly and repeatedly emphasizes, that the study of Byrski et al. is the first and the only available clinical observation describing platinum sensitivity of BRCA1-associated tumors.

Reviewer 2:

Comment: [the manuscript] could be strengthened by adding a sentence on the nature of this small trial. [the presentation] would be strengthened by providing details on how these clinical trials were coordinated....

Response: In response to this comment, I added some essential details:

Byrski et al. [1] have chosen more decisive approach, benefiting from some favorable circumstances in Poland, e.g. well-established infrastructure for hereditary cancer diagnosis, large number of oncological patients undergoing routine DNA testing, and high impact of BRCA1 founder mutations in BC morbidity. this Polish-Canadian research team

I also carefully checked all publications (Chappuis et al., 2002; Byrski et al., 2008a; Byrski et al., 2008b; Wysocki et al., 2008) describing distinct sensitivity of BRCA1-associated tumors to the therapy (authors affiliations, mode of patients

selection, acknowledgements, grant support). I afraid, it is difficult to describe consistently from the available texts how these trials were coordinated.

I hope that the manuscript is now acceptable for the publication and look forward to the decision of the Editorial Board.

Best wishes

Sincerely

Evgeny Imyanitov