

October 10, 2007

Re: 2008 IHPBA Warren Fellowship progress report

Dear the Executive Committee of IHPBA,

As the recipient of the 2008 IHPBA Warren Fellowship award, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Warren Foundation and IBPBA Board Committee for their support of me. I recently moved to Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC) in New York and fortunately was able to initiate quickly the research project under the guidance of Drs. William Jarnagin and Michael D'Angelica in Hepatobiliary Service. I would like to report the progress of my research within first 3 months.

In this study, we are aiming at identifying the distinct gene expression pattern of metastatic colorectal cancer in the liver and analyzing these gene signatures as predictor of clinical outcomes (recurrence and overall survival). In the first 3 months, basically, I collected clinical information of the patients whose surgical specimens are to be analyzed by gene microarray, including primary tumor pathology, metastatic tumor size and number, operative variables, follow-up data and so on. I identified 88 consecutive patients who underwent liver resection for metastatic colon cancer at MSKCC from 5/2005 through 6/2007. A piece of tumor tissue has been archived for RNA analysis and clinical information of the patients was entered prospectively into departmental database. Currently I am waiting for IRB approval for access to the archived tissue. Once it is granted, I am going to perform gene expression analysis using illumina microarray and hopefully I can report further progress in next 3 months.

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