

February 25, 2008

Re: 2008 IHPBA Warren Fellowship progress report part 2

Dear the Executive Committee of IHPBA,

I would like to report the progress of my research in the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> month at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York.

As I mentioned in the previous report, the major aim of this study is to analyze gene expression profiles of liver metastatic colorectal cancers in 88 patients who underwent liver resection from 5/2005 to 6/2007. After obtaining the approval by the MSKCC Institutional Review Board, we started checking the suitability of the archived specimens for RNA analysis by histological examination. As several patients received systemic or locoregional (via hepatic artery pump) chemotherapy prior to liver resection, 27 of 88 specimens (31%) were found to have extensive necrosis and not to contain enough viable cells in tumors. Therefore, the decision was made to include the patients who underwent liver resection relatively recently, from 7/2007 through 9/2007 as well.

From the frozen archived tissue, small amount of tumor tissue was macro-dissected and RNA was extracted. The extracted RNA was applied to Illumina Human-8 gene microarray chip, which carried 48000 known gene transcripts for analysis of global genomic expression.

I am currently running gene microarray analysis for each tumor and it will be completed in the end of March. I anticipate it would take 1-2 months to complete statistical analysis with assist of Dr. Qin, who is a biostatistician with extensive expertise of gene microarray analysis. I hope that I can obtain the preliminary result until the next progress report.

Sincerely yours,

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