

Response to:

CORRESPONDENCE

Assembling the brain trust: the multidisciplinary imperative in neuro-oncology

Ludmiret al.,

We thank Ludmir and colleagues for their positive comments about our *Position Paper* ‘Challenges to curing primary brain tumours’, and we agree entirely that radiation oncology plays, and will likely continue to play for many years, a critical role in the treatment of patients with brain tumours^{1,2}. Indeed, as noted by Ludmir and colleagues, a significant portion of our *Position Paper* is given over to the discussion of radiation oncology.

As stated in our manuscript, this narrative was composed following a series of international, multi-disciplinary meetings, hosted by Cancer Research UK, that engaged many individuals involved in brain tumour research and treatment. It is important to note, that our manuscript is a *Position Paper*, and not a *Meeting Report*. Thus, rather than synthesising the entirety of the discussions that took place during these meetings, it reports the opinions of those authors listed on the paper. The discussions held by the committee, did indeed engage radiation oncologists, although other commitments precluded them from participating in the writing of our *Position Paper*. Ludmir and colleagues should be assured that the entire brain tumour research community recognises and values the importance and contribution of radiation oncology and we look forward very much to continuing our interactions with this discipline for the good of all patients with these terrible diseases.

1. Kenneth Aldape, Kevin M. Brindle, Louis Chesler, Rajesh Chopra, Amar Gajjar, Mark R. Gilbert, Nicholas Gottardo, David H. Gutmann, Darren Hargrave, Eric C. Holland, David T. W. Jones, Johanna A. Joyce, Pamela Kearns, Mark W. Kieran, Ingo K. Mellinghoff, Melinda Merchant, Stefan M. Pfister, Steven M. Pollard, Vijay Ramaswamy, Jeremy N. Rich, Giles W. Robinson, David H. Rowitch, John H. Sampson, Michael D. Taylor, Paul Workman & Richard J. Gilbertson. Challenges to curing primary brain tumours. *Nat Rev Clin Oncol*. 2019 Feb 7. doi: 10.1038/s41571-019-0177-5. [Epub ahead of print].

2. Ethan B. Ludmir, Anita Mahajan, Verity Ahern, Thankamma Ajithkumar, Claire Alapetite, Valérie Bernier-Chastagner, Ranjit S. Bindra, Andrew J. Bishop, Stephanie Bolle, Paul D.

Brown , Christian Carrie , Anthony J. Chalmers , Eric L. Chang , Caroline Chung , Karin Dieckmann , Natia Esiashvili , Lorenza Gandola , Amol J. Ghia , Vinai Gondi , David R. Grosshans , Semi B. Harrabi , Gail Horan , Danny J. Indelicato , Rakesh Jalali , Geert O. Janssens , Mechthild Krause , Nadia N. Laack , Normand Laperriere , Anne Laprie , Jing Li , Karen J. Marcus , Susan L. McGovern , Thomas E. Merchant , Kenneth W. Merrell , Laetitia Padovani , Jeannette Parkes , Arnold C. Paulino , Rudolf Schwarz , Helen A. Shih , Luis Souhami , Erik P. Sulman , Roger E. Taylor , Nicola Thorp , Beate Timmermann , Greg Wheeler , Suzanne L. Wolden , Kristina D. Woodhouse , Debra N. Yeboa , Torunn I. Yock , Rolf-Dieter Kortmann & Mary Frances McAleer * Assembling the brain trust: the multidisciplinary imperative in neuro-oncology.