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Clinical proteomics in oncology : a passionate dance between science and clinic

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Table 4. Double cross-validators classification of serum samples. A positive test results assigns subjects to the breast cancer (BC) group and a negative to the controls. In the horizontal plane the actual histologically confirmed diagnosis is stated.

	Test results for detection of BC		
	Neg	Pos	Total
Patients	77	0	77
Controls	1	28	29
	78	28	106

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Abstract

In a randomized block design pre-operative serum samples obtained from 73 breast cancer patients and 63 controls were used to generate high-resolution MALDI-TOF protein profiles as a calibration set. This validation set consisted of serum samples from 38 breast cancer patients and 29 controls.

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Table 4a. Double cross-validators classification of serum samples **in calibration set**. A positive test results assigns subjects to the breast cancer (BC) group and a negative to the controls.

	Test results for detection of BC		
	Pos	Neg	Total
BC patients	61	12	73
Controls	7	56	63
	68	68	136

Table 4b. Double cross-validators classification of serum samples **in validation set**.

Test results for detection of BC			
	Pos	Neg	Total
BC patients	34	4	38
Controls	8	21	29
	42	25	67

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Double cross-validatory analysis and evaluation carried out on the protein spectra of the calibration set (2 target plates) correctly classified 61 of 73 breast cancer patients as malignant. Fifty-six of 63 controls were correctly classified as non-cancer. (Table 4a)

These double cross validated results yielded a total recognition rate of 86%, a sensitivity of 84% and a specificity of 88% for the detection of breast cancer within the calibration set.

Nevertheless, these results produce a total recognition rate of 80.9%, a sensitivity of 92% and a specificity of 72% of the classifier in an independent dataset.

