Figure S1. Macro-dissection of tumor tissue in core needle biopsy specimen. (A) HE staining of core needle biopsy specimen. Magnification, x40. (B) Sample prior to macro-dissection (nuclear staining with neutral red). Magnification, x40. (C) Sample after manual macro-dissection. Magnification, x40. HE, hematoxylin and eosin.
Figure S2. ROC curve of SPARC mRNA and pCR. Area under the curve 0.700. ROC, receiver operating characteristic; SPARC, secreted protein acidic and rich in cysteine; pCR, pathological complete response.
Table SI. List of assay IDs used for real-time PCR analysis.

| mRNA      | Assay ID            | Gene symbol | Gene name                                    |
|-----------|---------------------|-------------|----------------------------------------------|
| SPARC     | Hs00234160_m1       | SPARC       | Secreted protein acidic and cysteine rich    |
| TS        | Hs00426586_m1       | TYMS        | Thymidylate synthetase                       |
| DPD       | Hs00559278_m1       | DPYD        | Dihydropyrimidine dehydrogenase              |
| MDR1      | Hs00184500_m1       | ABCB1       | ATP Binding Cassette Subfamily B Member 1    |
| MRP1      | Hs00219905_m1       | ABCC1       | ATP Binding Cassette Subfamily C Member 1    |
| TopoIIα   | Hs03063307_m1       | TOP2A       | DNA topoisomerase II alpha                   |
| β-actin   | Hs00357333_g1       | ACTB        | β-Actin                                     |