Reviewer’s report

Title: The gene-reduction effect of chromosomal losses detected in gastric cancers

Version: 1 Date: 31 July 2010

Reviewer: Rommel Burbano

Reviewer’s report:

The manuscript by Hong et al. describes the correlation of the level of loss of heterozigosity (LOH) and the cell-adverse effects in gastric cancers of different histological types. The manuscript is well written and the results relevant, however some points should have to be clarified before its publication.

Minor Essentials Revisions:
- The authors said in page 6, last paragraph, and along manuscript that the eight cancer-associated chromosomes examined had a low density of genes and no stomach-specific genes. So, why those chromosomes were chosen? The authors should clarify this point.
- The authors describe transcript analyses in the “Results” section, however nothing is mentioned in the “Methods” section. Even if the authors used data from previous papers, it is important to mention this in the “Methods” section.
- The authors cited 116 samples in the “Methods” section, but in the first line of “Results” they cited 118.
- The authors should explain the relationship between 17p loss in the intestinal-type cancers and 13q loss in the diffuse-type cancers. Is there any cancer-related gene in the cited regions that could explain that?

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests