Reviewer’s report

Title: Gynecomastia during imatinib mesylate treatment for gastrointestinal tumor: a rare adverse event

Version: 1 Date: 9 July 2011

Reviewer: Vincenzo Pitini

Reviewer’s report:

Dear Dr Timothy Shipley PhD,

In this paper Heli Liu et al. present six patients who developed gynecomastia during treatment with imatinib. Interestingly, three patients had increased serum estradiol levels which suggested that the imbalance of sex hormone may be the cause of gynecomastia during treatment with imatinib. This paper has important implications for clinical management and given the presented data the conclusions are right.

1. The question posed by the authors is well defined
2. The methods are appropriate and well described
3. The data are sound
4. The manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition
5. The discussion and conclusions are well balanced and adequately supported by the data
6. The title and abstract accurately convey what has been found
7. The writing is acceptable

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

Reviewer declares that he has no conflicts of interest.

With best wishes,
Prof. Vincenzo Pitini