Reviewer's report

Title: True sentinel nodes identified by computed tomography-lymphography accurately stage the axilla in patients with breast cancer

Version: 1 Date: 13 August 2013

Reviewer: weijun peng

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Comments:
1. The description of methods part is not full-scale, such as the fat conditions of patients was not mentioned (because sentinel lymph node is not identified easily for fat patients on CT-LG). How to define the sentinel lymph node on CT-LG images should be described in methods, sometimes the distorted lymph duct was to identify incorrectly as sentinel lymph node.

2. Methods, fourth paragraph, "The sentinel node location was identified on the CT image and was indicated precisely by the crossing point of the localizing marker and the CT plane lights". The markers on the skin is very difficult to reflect the true position of sentinel lymph node during the sentinel lymph node biopsy procedure, and how to prove the lymph node that you have obtained from dyed and/or hot nodes is the lymph node that marked on the skin; because the number of sentinel lymph nodes obtaining by sentinel lymph node biopsy is more than that of CT-LG.

3. Results, first paragraph, "All 47 patients demonstrated metastases to at least one of the true sentinel nodes identified by CT-LG." How are you to explain this result? Just because the lymph node could be displayed on CT-LG images? Or these lymph nodes have some imaging features on CT-LG?

4. Results, second paragraph, "In 4 of the other 5 patients, only one sentinel node was identified and it was not necessary to distinguish sentinel nodes from non-sentinel nodes by visualizing lymph flow." Why? "In one patient, two nodes were identified and they could not be distinguished." Why? It is maybe better if the image of this patient is displayed in the results part.

5. Background and discussion were well written.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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