Reviewer's report

Title: The human epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) gene in European patients with advanced colorectal cancer harbors infrequent mutations in its tyrosine kinase domain

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Reviewer: Jozsef Timar

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- Major Compulsory Revisions

Throughout the text authors do not discriminate between mutations and SNPs found in EGFR of CRC patients. Example: silent germinal point mutation of exon18 (Y725Y), exon19 (742), exon20 (787), exon21 (836).

Definition of the amplification of EGFR is completely based on MLPA technique used. The reviewer does not feel correct this definition: a maximum what can be accepted is the term copy number increase including polysomy. Other problem with the definition is that how authors interpret those data when there is a discrepancy of EGFR levels in various exons as the MLPA kit offers. Why a minimum threshold of 5 exons is defined for copy number alteration? Suggestion is to delete the amplification part of the entire manuscript.

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