Reviewer's report

Title: p16INK4a hypermethylation and p53, p16 and MDM2 protein expression in Esophageal Squamous Cell Carcinoma

Version: 1 Date: 22 January 2010

Reviewer: Ranju Ralhan

Reviewer's report:

This study investigated p16INK4a hypermethylation and p53, p16 and MDM2 protein expression in Esophageal Squamous Cell Carcinoma patients in the Golestan province in Iran.

Major Compulsory Revisions
1. The manuscript is too descriptive and needs to be condensed.
2. The language errors need to be corrected.
3. The authors have mentioned few other studies from Iran so they need to clarify how their study is different from the existing reports and what new information is gained from this study.
4. The authors quote Age standardized rates of incidence of Esophageal cancer that are not published, so they need to mention the source of this data. Esophageal cancer can also be adenocarcinomas, but no mention has been made about their incidence in Iran.
5. Data on MSP should be shown in a figure.

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: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.