Reviewer's report

Title: Combined mutations of asxl1, cbl, flt3, idh1, idh2, jak2, kras, npm1, nras, runx1, tet2 and wt1 genes in myelodysplastic syndromes and acute myeloid leukemias

Version: 2 Date: 29 June 2010

Reviewer: Anthony Bench

Reviewer's report:

The authors have responded to the various comments by the reviewers. The main issue concerning the manuscript is the four-hit model proposed by the authors. Overall, I feel that it is reasonable to maintain Figure 2 and to discuss the proposed model with the proviso that it is made clear that the model is speculative.

Furthermore, as the authors have not been able to assess patients with balanced translocations (eg. AML1-ETO [RUNX1-RUNX1T1] etc) and excluded patients with a complex karyotype they should make it clear in the discussion that the model applies to patients with normal or simple karyotypes only. They provide no evidence that the model is applicable to other patients (i.e. balanced translocation or complex karyotype).

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