Reviewer's report

Title: Decreased Hsp90 expression in the continuum of breast lobular lesions.

Version: 2 Date: 1 April 2010

Reviewer: Gulisa Turashvili

Reviewer's report:

This study has obvious limitations and it is good that the authors address these limitation in the Discussion.

Major Essential Revisions
1. Consider adding a table showing how many normal TDLU, LN and ILC samples had Allred scores 0 to 8. It should also be clarified in Methods or Table 1 that Allred score = %positive + staining intensity.
2. Dako Envision kit is NOT an avidin-biotin based detection system. Envision systems are based on dextran polymer technology and they are completely avidin-biotin free.
3. In the Discussion section, the authors state: ‘...given that c-erbB2 is positively associated with Hsp90 expression [7], it is tempting to speculate that downregulation of Hsp90 in ILC may be a c-erbB2 related event’. This speculation is based on Pick et al. paper as no association was observed between Hsp90 Allred score and c-erbB2 status in ILC subgroup. There are only 7 HER2+ positive ILC patients in this cohort which may be one of the reasons for this lack of association between HER2 and Hsp90. This needs to be clarified in the same paragraph.
4. Nuclear expression of Hsp90 in <5% cells may be caused by technical reasons and this should be commented.

Minor Compulsory Revisions
1. Fig. 1a: hematoxylin is more violet as opposed to blue in Fig. 2a.
2. Figure size needs some formatting.

Discretionary Revisions
None

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, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests