Reviewer’s report

Title: In Vitro Effects of Imatinib Mesylate on Radiosensitivity and Chemosensitivity of Breast Cancer Cells

Version: 1 Date: 24 February 2010

Reviewer: Marco Prunotto

Reviewer’s report:

Dear Editor BMC Cancer,

the paper is well written and also results are of interest for readers of BMC Cancer.

The main problem consists in how the manuscript (any mainly results) are presented.

The paper can be considered an ”Excel paper”.

In order to be accepted authors have to provide scientific evidences (e.g., images of TUNEL staining or a blot for an apoptotic marker in the different conditions/treatments, images of colonies in colony forming assays). These evidences have still to be considered the basis of all measurements reported in Excel graphs but have to be presented before graphs. Also western blot quality has to be checked (i.e., reload gels with less proteins, provide a control gel image or an housekeeping protein blot). this work has to be carried out for both cell lines used. Migration has also to be tested (e.g., by wound assay model - provide image) in PDGF stimulated cells. I suggest to accept the paper after careful revision.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.