Reviewer’s report

Title: Distinct choline metabolic profiles are associated with differences in gene expression for basal-like and luminal-like breast cancer xenograft models

Version: 1 Date: 8 June 2010

Reviewer: Franca Podo

Reviewer’s report:

In its revised form the manuscript better describes the new message and limitations of the presented work.

The Authors replied to a number of questions relevant to a better understanding of the present and future challenges in the field.

There aren’t in my opinion major compulsory revisions to recommend.

A minor essential revision (which could in case be made by the Authors by direct reply to the Editor) is the following: Table 1, column 2, Hormone receptor status of the primary tumor: "ER-/PgR+" or "ER-/PgR-"?

The reviewer actually intends that the receptor status of the primary human tumor was double negative, as part of the definition of "triple negative" status, without "conversion" of PgR expression on going from the human tumor to the xenograft model.

Please check some typo such as "xwnograft" in Conclusions of abstract p 3.

The paper gives a relevant message a opens new interesting questions in relation to the potential use of MRS as a tool to monitor tumor progression and response to therapy in breast cancer.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

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.