Reviewer’s report

Title: Mucins in neoplastic spectrum of colorectal polyps: can they provide predictions?

Version: 1 Date: 10 June 2009

Reviewer: Atsunori Oga

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Major Compulsory Revisions

1) Do authors admit adenoma with invasive growing? If not, adenoma with invasion should be classified into adenocarcinoma including carcinoma in adenoma. In addition, are new findings shown in the table1?

2) Table2 and 3. It becomes easy there to be a significant difference if divided into a lot of groups in the statistical work that you used. Is it appropriate though a significant difference is shown?

3) The number of samples seems to be insufficient to lead a strong conclusion statistically about the serrated adenoma. (You wrote "merging these data with that of table 3, will raise the notion that .... (serrated adenoma, tubular adenoma).

4) In "Dissucussion", you wrote "this could make it hard for us to assume an ordinal nature for the conventional succession of malignant transformation that starts from hyperplastic polyps, passes through serrated adenomas, and ends in tubular, tubullovillous adenoma, and finally villous adenomas". Is the conventional succession of malignant transformation you wrote natural or usual event?

5) The data and evidence in this manuscript you submitted might not be appropriate though a significant difference is shown. A suitable conclusion for the title of the manuscript or statistical results of table 4 might be led after the study using enough samples of hyperplastic polyp, low grade adenoma, high grade adenoma, carcinoma component of carcinoma in adenoma, and adenocarcinoma was done.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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.