**Reviewer's report**

**Title:** A profile of prognostic and molecular factors in European and Maori breast cancer patients

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 30 April 2010

**Reviewer:** Junichi Kurebayashi

**Reviewer's report:**

**Major Compulsory Revisions:**

1. The number of tumor and serum samples from a sub-cohort of this study was too small to clarify ethnic differences between Maori and European breast cancer patients.

2. Subtype classifications such as the intrinsic subtype may be useful to investigate racial disparity between the two different races (Carey L et al. JAMA. 2006;295(21):2492-502). Additional analysis on epidermal growth factor receptor status in breast cancer is needed to classify the tumor samples according to the immunohistochemical intrinsic subtype.

**Discretionary Revisions:**

1. Physical conditions such as the presence or absence of obesity might be different between the two races. These factors may influence the patient outcome, in particular, overall survival.

2. Treatment modalities such as surgical procedures and postoperative adjuvant therapies may influence the patient outcome. Information on the treatment modalities should be presented.

**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.