Reviewer’s report

Title: Allelotyping identification of genomic alterations in rectal chromosomally unstable tumors without preoperative treatment

Version: 4 Date: 15 September 2010

Reviewer: Andrea Tannapfel

Reviewer’s report:

The authors in the current version have successfully addressed/substantiated/discussed the lacunae inherent in the earlier version of the manuscript. Therefore, the manuscript in its present form is acceptable for publication in your journal.

In addition you may also please consider the following points and their respective answers:

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined? yes
2. Are the methods appropriate and well described? yes
3. Are the data sound? yes
4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition? yes
5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data? yes
6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated? yes
7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished? yes
8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found? yes
9. Is the writing acceptable? yes

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'