Reviewer’s report

Title: BRCA1-mutated and basal-like breast cancers have similar aCGH profiles and a high incidence of protein truncating TP53 mutations

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Reviewer: Jose Palacios

Reviewer’s report:

Holstege et al compared TP53 mutation frequency and type and aCGH profiles among BRCA1-mutated, basal-like, and luminal breast cancers. The study is well designed with the limitation of comparing data from tumors that differed in preservation (fresh-frozen vs formalin-fixed) but the authors used appropriate statistics to solve this problem.

The author should comment why the frequency of TP53 mutations in the two series of luminal tumors is so different. In this sense, information regarding the histological grade of tumors might be important.

Since the authors suggested that TP53 mutations might modulate sensitivity to certain types of chemotherapy, the article should also discuss TP53 mutation as a mechanism of resistance, as was previously reported in some papers by one of the co-authors (A-L Borresen-Dale).

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
'I declare that I have no competing interests'