Reviewer's report

Title: Gene expression profiles of lung adenocarcinoma linked to histopathological grading and survival but not to EGF-R status: a microarray study

Version: 2 Date: 16 December 2009

Reviewer: Robert Stearman

Reviewer's report:

- Major Compulsory Revisions

The authors have done an excellent job addressing the previous comments and I believe greatly improving their manuscript.

* YES Minor Essential Revisions

The side tables in Figure 4 should have a more complete description in the figure legend with some relabeling. For instance the 3 data columns are "score" (is this normalized enrichment score?), "asymptotic.p" (is this nominal p value?), and "asymptotic.fdr" (is this false discovery rate p value?). I assume the authors are identifying the Potti et al signature as significant because its FDR p value is <0.25 (as recommended by the GSEA website). If so, the authors should explicitly state this with the caveat that their study used a moderate sample size and thus a more restrictive p value may be appropriate.

* YES Discretionary Revisions

page 14 "resulted in some co-segregation of cases"

It would be useful for the authors to state the percent of correctly classified samples in short- or long-term outcome groups rather than "data not shown".

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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.