Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Alterations in PTEN and PIK3CA in colorectal cancers in the EPIC Norfolk study: associations with clinicopathological and dietary factors

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 30 December 2010

**Reviewer:** Andrea Sartore Bianchi

**Reviewer’s report:**

The article by Naguib A et al. is an analysis of PTEN and PIK3CA molecular alteration in 186 adenocarcinomas and 16 adenomas from the EPIC Norfolk study. The article is of interest by confirming in a large cohort of CRC patients the pattern of occurrence of such molecular alterations and their association with clinicopathological features. Even more interesting are the data regarding the association between PTEN alterations and dietary factors, showing no impact of dietary influences, with the exception of lower levels of LDL.

The study is scientifically accurate and clearly written, making the paper fully comprehensive to the reader. I have no revisions to ask for this paper and I suggest publication in BMC Cancer.

**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