Reviewer's report

Title: Dose and polymorphic genes xrcc1, xrcc3, gst play a role in the risk of developing erythema in breast cancer patients following single shot partial breast irradiation after conservative surgery

Version: 2 Date: 10 June 2011

Reviewer: Roland Hawkins

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revisions: none

Minor essential revisiona: none

Discretionary revisions:

1. 1st line of introduction: It is my understanding that the chance of a woman getting breast cancer or carcinoma in situ in a lifetime is about 11%. This is much lower than the percent quoted. Furthermore, I think "incidence" has a definite meaning in epidemiology different from the usage in this sentence. The incidence quoted for the USA is about 124 cases per 100,000 women per year.

2. Materials and Methods, section on "end-points". The grading scale for erythema is important and I think should be described explicitly rather than directing the reader to a reference that I found difficult to access.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.