Reviewer's report

Title: Nottingham Prognostic Index in Triple-Negative Breast Cancer: A reliable prognostic tool?

Version: 1 Date: 6 June 2011

Reviewer: Ian Ellis

Reviewer's report:

The study examines the value and determining patient outcome of the Nottingham Prognostic Index in the series of cases of invasive breast cancer. The authors focus on the role of the NPI in triple negative breast cancer. This is a topical issue as there is emerging data suggesting that a spread of TNBC may be different from other forms of breast cancer and the role of lymphnode staging may therefore be different.

The authors demonstrate convincingly that the NPI retains the ability to stratify patients into significantly differently prognostic groups and this ability is retained in triple negative breast cancer.

I have no major criticisms of the manuscripts as it stands. The methodologies used appear appropriate. It is reasonably concise and referencing is up to date.

The English grammar in places is unusual or incorrect and the authors should seek advice of improving the readability of the manuscript.

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

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.