Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Mesenchymal and stemness circulating tumor cells in early breast cancer diagnosis

**Version:** 4 **Date:** 24 January 2012

**Reviewer:** Lisa Rydén

**Reviewer’s report:**

The manuscript is greatly improved and has major important novel findings. One major concern is left and that is comparison of the findings of the circulating cells (defined by the panel the authors have chosen in the manuscript) with the standards of the Adna test CTC. They quote a previous publication with a rate of 8.9% CTC positivity. If the authors can address this issue by inserting this data for comparison, the manuscript will add interesting data in the field.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

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

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare I have no competing interests.