Reviewer's report

Title: Risk factors associated with fatal pulmonary hemorrhage in locally advanced non-small cell lung cancer treated with chemoradiotherapy

Version: 1 Date: 8 November 2011

Reviewer: Sergiusz Nawrocki

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Discretionary Revisions:
1. It would be interesting to add T stage subgroups to the analysis. There is possible association between bigger tumors or T4 tumors with fatal PH.
2. How was the PH determined - by autopsy or medical records? It should be clarified.
3. I miss the information on comorbidities and concomitant medications which may increase the risk of PH.

Major Compulsory Revision:
1. Authors conclude that for pts with very high risk of fatal PH surgery should be considered as a primary option. Many of these patients are not operable due to stage (IIIB) or comorbidities, I would also recommend to discuss sequential chemoradiotherapy or radiotherapy alone for these patients. These options have a little lower potential of local control but also are associated with lower risk of serious complications (however I am not sure if sequential chemoradiotherapy or radiotherapy is associated with lower risk of PH - may be authors could retrieve such pts from their database or find relevant data in the literature).

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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