Reviewer's report

Title: Characterization of genetic rearrangements in esophageal squamous carcinoma cell lines by a combination of M-FISH and array-CGH: Further confirmation of some split genomic regions in primary tumors.

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Reviewer: Xin-Yuan Guan

Reviewer's report:

In this manuscript, Hao et al used M-FISH and array-CGH to investigate chromosomal aberrations in 6 ESCC cell lines. In general, results described in this study are convincing and interesting. Especially, authors found that the split of 11q13 could be detected in 43.6% of primary ESCC cases, which was associated with lymph node metastasis.

Minor essential revisions:

1. In the first paragraph of “Results” section, authors should clarify that M-FISH was performed on 3 or 4 of ESCC cell lines?

2. In Figure 3C, could authors explain why more copies of Cancer_1D11 were detected in tumor 1 in the left panel compared to the middle panel?

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

No competing interests in relation to the paper.