Reviewer's report

Title: High incidence of microsatellite instability and loss of heterozygosity in three loci in breast cancer patients receiving chemotherapy: a prospective study

Version: 1 Date: 5 April 2012

Reviewer: Beverly Duncan

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions:

Upon my review of this publication and current assessment of its data, experiments, and outcome, I have no recommendations for revision or need for additional information for which the author must respond.

Minor Essential Revisions:

My review of this publication note two typographical errors requiring correction as follow:

MATERIALS AND METHODS
1. DNA extraction and LOH and MSI analysis. Paragraph 1:line 11 (40-minutes)
2. Discussion- paragraph 4:line 8. (space)

Discretionary Revisions:

1. If the author could have increased the sample size or number of patients in the other treatment groups outside of the FEC group this could strength the outcome or conclusion.
2. Secondly, if available, the author could have included more information on the type and/or stage of breast cancer for those patients in the high and low FEC groups.
3. In addition, the hormone status (i.e. ER, PR, and HER2) would also be of interest.

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.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.