Reviewer's report

Title: Copy Number Amplification of the PIK3CA Gene Is Associated with Poor Prognosis in Non-lymph node metastatic Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma

Version: 2  Date: 14 May 2012

Reviewer: Shu-Chun Chuang

Reviewer's report:

Statistical analysis:
1. how the proportional hazard assumption tested?
2. Do the author mean adj for mutation status of KRAS and PIK3CA or PIK3CA only or KRAS only?

Page 8, first 3 lines, look repetitive.

Page 8, bottom line: "... one patient had a high score, ..." please define high score in text. The readers are not expected to find the definition themselves.

Discussion:
Page 11, line 12: "In these little frequency..." Do not understand...
Do these mutations/amplifications reflect the exposures?

Tables:
Can the authors spend some time in editing the tables? One table, one page, please!
Table 6: please report p-value instead of "not significant"
How many cases with amplified PIK3CA had PIK3CA and KRAS mutation?

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests