Reviewer's report

Title: Deletion of the TNFAIP3/A20 gene detected by FICTION analysis in classical Hodgkin lymphoma

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Reviewer: Sylvia Hartmann

Reviewer's report:

Normoto et al. have investigated a large series of primary Hodgkin cases by FICTION for TNFAIP3. They found heterozygous and homozygous deletions of TNFAIP3 in several cases. The concept is not novel, but the study seems to be technically well performed.

Minor Essential Revision:

1. The authors found three cases with a low ratio of TNFAIP3/CEP6 probes in the reactive bystander cells. How do the authors explain this? Could this be due to a technical problem? If a technical problem cannot be excluded, these cases should be noted "not evaluable".

2. The authors state in the introduction "deletion of one allele (of TNFAIP3) has been detected in various B-cell malignancies". The authors should mention "has been detected in Hodgkin lymphoma and other B-cell malignancies", as deletions of TNFAIP3 have been reported previously in Hodgkin lymphoma and this study basically confirms previous results.

3. The manuscript contains many spelling mistakes and the English is poor. Professional English Editing should be obtained.

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

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

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.