Reviewer’s report

Title: Association between polymorphisms in XRCC1 gene and clinical outcomes of patients with lung cancer: a meta-analysis

Version: 1 Date: 9 December 2011

Reviewer: Joachim Schneider

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have done a meta-analysis of the association between polymorphism in XRCC1 gene and clinical outcome of lung cancer patients after chemotherapy.

In the studies were involved the XRCC1 codon 194 and 399. Any informations on codon 280 are missing and have additinally to be adressed.

The study is well done. The presented data are informative. The statistic evaluation is ok.

XRCC1 implicated an association with x-rays. The response to chemotherapy was evaluated. There are some studies where also radiation was a therapeutic option. The authors addressed, that this possible confounding factor is a week point of the publicated studies. We propose, that the studies were also radiation might be of influence have to be marked separately.

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.