Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Differential Expression of Colon Cancer Associated Transcript-1 (CCAT1) Along the Colonic Adenoma-Carcinoma Sequence

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 22 November 2012

**Reviewer:** Xiang Du

**Reviewer’s report:**

Major revision:

In their manuscript entitled “Differential Expression of Colon Cancer Associated Transcript-1 (CCAT1) Along the Colonic Adenoma-Carcinoma Sequence”, the authors detected CCAT1 expression across the adenoma-carcinoma sequence of CC tumorigenesis, and found that CCAT1 is up-regulated in the colon adenoma-carcinoma sequence, through all disease stages, including advanced metastatic disease. The authors concluded that CCAT1 may serve as a biomarker for diagnosis, staging and follow-up of CC.

Major problems:

1. The language should be polished.
2. Some abbreviations are abused. For example, CCAT1 and qPCR, and so on.
3. The method used in this article is correct; however, if CCAT1 is up-regulated in the colon adenoma-carcinoma sequence, through all disease stages, including advanced metastatic disease, maybe it is not a good biomarker for diagnosis, so the conclusion should be rewritten.
4. The Introduction should be rewritten. For example, the paragraph “The most common application of CEA…” is useless. The paragraph “Adjuvant treatment selection for patients…” is also suitable. The focus should be introduce the advance of CRC biomarkers
5. The authors should compare diagnostic efficacy using CCAT1 with CEA and/or CA199.

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

**Quality of written English:** Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

No competing interests.