Reviewer's report

Title: Human Papillomavirus-associated oropharyngeal cancer: an observational study of diagnosis, prevalence and prognosis in a UK population

Version: 3 Date: 7 April 2013

Reviewer: Chung Feng Hwang

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions

Conclusion: I still do not agree in the study authors could prove HPV was responsible for the development of 55% of OPCs. More and more other basic and clinical studies supported HPV was responsible for OPC. In the study, the authors only performed retrospective analysis of HPV and P16 status in archived tissues. Other basic study of cell line and related data are necessary to make such a conclusion in the study. The conclusion in abstract “This study highlights the significant burden of OPC associated with HPV infection.” is more reasonable.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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' below.