Reviewer's report

Title: Clinical instability of breast cancer markers is reflected in long-term in vitro estrogen deprivation studies

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Reviewer: Hannah Harrison

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript describes a nicely planned, executed and analysed piece of work. It is not all that novel but the authors do acknowledge this limitation. That said, their data and interpretation adds to our understanding of LTED culture and as well as the issues of inherent and acquired resistance to endocrine therapy.

Regarding Figure 4 (and those related to it): This is a nice way to depict a large amount of gene expression data which can often be confusing but I feel that the data needs to be displayed somewhere ie fold changes and significance. Perhaps another Additional table or altering the tables already there to include this data?

I am interested to know, also, if any time points between 8 weeks and 10 months were tested? Do the authors know at what point ER is re-expressed?

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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'