Reviewer's report

Title: Concurrent chemoradiotherapy with tomotherapy in locally advanced non-small cell lung cancer: Phase I, dose-escalation study

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Reviewer: Guy Storme

Reviewer's report:

Interesting paper but with some major shortcomings:

1° This is not a phase I since the authors didn't reach a toxic level. (they stopped increasing the dose because it reached a dose of 38mg/m² "being it a greater dose than that in previous assessments,..."

This is not a reason to stop in a phase I

So my proposal is to add some patients till you reach a toxic dose.

2° The abstract is not complete: no data on PFS & OS and in Conclusion: "The PFS and OS ...are encouraging" to what? To increase further the dose? To go to a phase III?

p5 Fibronacci 3+3 design : please add a reference

At the time this protocol was planned, it was known that 30 mg/m²/week docetaxel concomitant with radiotherapy was considered as the limit dose.

In the Chemotherapy, there is no description of the cisplatin dose neither the docetaxel dose

p6: ... was started 30 minutes after infusion.

In Radiotherapy: Since patients were seen every week, and tomotherapy allow imaging daily, was there an adaptive radiotherapy performed?

p7 ... background activity was used as a PET criterion for malignancy. What about inflammatory pathology? Lung cancer patients have often an infection disease on top of their lung cancer.

p9 PR after induction had also PR of the combined treatment. Was this second PR larger than the first?

p10: Induction chemotherapy ... has several theoretical strategies such as increasing the sensitivity of tumours in early-stage disease!! here we have SIII A and B disease. What about inducing resistance?

Individuate should be individualize
To our knowledge this are the first data of tomotherapy with weekly concurrent docetaxel in a dose escalation study, in ... with fixed dose of cisplatin.

...endpoint... endpoint

**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:**

NO