Reviewer’s report

Title: The Influence of the Treatment Response on the Impact of Resection Margin Status after Preoperative Chemoradiotherapy in Locally Advanced Rectal Cancer

Version: 4 Date: 30 June 2013

Reviewer: Zhen Zhang

Reviewer’s report:

The definition of good responder in the manuscript was "near total regression or down-staging of T stage", if the T stage was from T4 downstaged to T3, was it classified as good responder? please specify the percentage of this group of patients.
There was no relationship of DRM with treatment outcome in the analysis. Which factor was the the cut-off point of 7mm based on?
In the part of ‘treatment’, page 7, the expression of "All patients underwent concurrent chemotherapy with radiation, consisting of a 5-fluorouracil (n=133) and capecitabine (n=18)." , here, the "and" should be “or”

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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