Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Space-time clusters of breast cancer using residential histories: A Danish case-control study

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 28 December 2013

**Reviewer:** Pierre Goovaerts

**Reviewer’s report:**

This paper presents the application of existing statistical techniques (Q-statistics, SaTScan) to the detection of space-time clusters of breast cancer cases in Denmark. The paper is technically sound and well written. The main contribution is the illustration of how the availability of good Cancer registry and Civil registration systems facilitates the incorporation of residential histories and individual reproductive factors in the space-time cluster analysis. Important covariates, such as alcohol consumption and use of hormone replacement therapy, are still missing, which hampers the interpretation of the results as acknowledged by the authors.

Discretionary Revisions

- Line 64. The word “risk” is missing at the end of the sentence.
- Fig. 2a. The caption should be improved to clarify the content of the insert map.

**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 am an employee of BioMedware, Inc whose president is one of the authors on this manuscript.