Reviewer’s report

Title: FOXP1 and TP63 involvement in the progression of myelodysplastic syndrome with 5q- and additional cytogenetic abnormalities.

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Reviewer: HERNANDEZ JESUS M

Reviewer’s report:

L’Abbate et al report on a case of a 5q- MDS evolving, in a short time, to an overt acute myeloid leukemia showing rearrangements of chromosome 3. By means of FISH the authors were able to refine the breakpoints of the chromosomal abnormality, and demonstrated the involvement of both FOXP1 and TP63 genes. The paper contains useful information because these two genes have been not largely involved in the pathogenesis of MDS/AML patients.

Major issues:
Taking into account that no RNA material is available at time of diagnosis and to better characterize the possible role of these genes in MDS/AML the authors should perform validation studies in patients with these diseases. Otherwise the finding could be considered as largely unusual in these patients.

Minor comments
Some data regarding the evolution of the patient should be showed. The use of IFISH analyzing the involved genes at diagnosis could be of interest.

The paragraph “conclusions” is too large and contains some information that could be placed in the “Case Presentation”.

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